EVERY SUNDAY

A Drama-Musical Celebrating God's Faithfulness

some songs/all arrangements and orchestrations by

David R. Holsinger

Libretto and piano/vocal score

Originals – 8.5" x 11"

(2 copies in the archive - one with no libretto)

"EVERY SUNDAY"

IT'S SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE AT HOMETOWN CHURCH, U.S.A.,
AND SOME THINGS JUST NEVER CHANGE . . .

A DRAMA-MUSICAL CELEBRATING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!

Book by
Yvonne Ward, Rod Schumacher,
Virginia Russell, Mimi Ribble, and David Holsinger
Arranged and Orchestrated by David Holsinger (ASCAP)

LIBRETTO

"EVERY SUNDAY"

SCENE ONE

SONG - "INTRO MUSIC" & "ENTER HIS GATES"

Words & Music by DAVID HOLSINGER

(As bass ostinati begins in orchestra, people begin to scurry about the platform. In the midst of the activity, there is a small circle of people (the worship leader plus 2 or 3 others) holding hands, heads bowed in prayer. Choir members come on stage, some in pairs, small groups, etc., chatting among themselves. Taking their places on the risers, some begin to meditate and worship, while others continue to visit with one another. The instrumentalists warm up playing various scales, "do-bops", etc. One "sound man" scurries about the stage blowing into microphones . . .

The prayer group breaks up. The worship leader comes to the microphone, waving greetings to various people, both in choir and in the "congregation" . . .

The choir begins to take shape! Dancers begin to assemble behind the worship leader and worship team. Worship leader begins to exhort the people:)

WORSHIP LEADER

"Hallelujah! Praise God! It's so good to see you here on this beautiful Sunday morning! . . . Have you come to Praise the Lord Today? . . "

CHOIR

"Amen! Right on, Brother! . . etc."

WORSHIP LEADER

"Well . . . Amen! Psalm 100 says we are to"Enter His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with Praise!" Are you ready to enter and praise? . . "

CHOIR

"Amen! Amen!, etc."

WORSHIP LEADER

"Amen! Let's get our hands together as the church band breaks forth in joy! Hallelujah! (begins clapping) (Continues to exhort with ad lib exclamations. Choir responds with exclamations as band plays opening strains) Let's sing out, Church!"

SONG - "ENTER HIS GATES"
(Worship Leader, Choir, "congregation")

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKFUL ALLELUIAS!
ENTER HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE!
ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKFUL ALLELUIAS!
ENTER HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE!
(repeats)

THE LORD IS GOOD! HIS LOVE ENDURES!
HIS FAITHFULNESS IS SURE!
COME WITH GLADNESS, SERVE THE LORD OUR GOD!
SHOUT FOR JOY! ALL THE EARTH!
SING THE JOYFUL SONG!
HE HAS MADE US!
WE ARE CHOSEN THE APPLE OF HIS EYE!

WORSHIP LEADER

(During musical transition) "Praise the Lord! Psalm 40 says He has put a NEW SONG in my mouth, a HYMN OF PRAISE to our God! Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord! . . . Let us continue to praise Him for our salvation! . . . He has set our feet on the SOLID ROCK which is JESUS CHRIST! Hallelujah! . . . (ad lib. "chatter") . . Sing out Church! . . Here we go! . . . "

SONG - "HE HATH PUT A NEW SONG IN MY MOUTH"
Words & Music by WARREN HASTINGS

(All Sing)

HE HATH PUT A NEW SONG IN MY MOUTH!
HE HATH PUT A NEW SONG IN MY MOUTH!
HE HATH PUT A NEW SONG IN MY MOUTH!
EVEN PRAISE TO THE LORD OUR GOD!
(repeats)

HE HEARD MY CRY, REACHED DOWN IN LOVE,
AND DREW ME UP FROM THE PIT OF SIN!
HE SET MY FEET UPON THE ROCK,
AND HE HATH PUT A NEW SONG IN MY MOUTH!

(Transition back to "ENTER HIS GATES")

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKFUL ALLELUIAS!
ENTER HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE!
ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKFUL ALLELUIAS!
ENTER HIS COURTS WITH . . .

*(All participants on platform **FREEZE IN PLACE**, interrupted in audience by a family (man, woman, 2 kids) **entering sanctuary**, led by husband through people, stepping over feet, etc. They are late and OBVIOUSLY FRUSTRATED as they make their way awkwardly to their seats . . .)*

HUSBAND

"Excuse me . . . (ad lib) I'm sorry . . . Could we get through here? . . . Excuse me? . . I'm sorry . . . I didn't mean to step on you . . . "

WIFE

"I can't believe we're late! This is SO embarrassing! When will HE ever learn that when the alarm goes off you're supposed to get out of bed! Oh, I don't believe this! We didn't even get a FRONT ROW SEAT! . . "

(IMMEDIATE ACTION on platform. Song continues.)

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKFUL ALLELUIAS!
ENTER HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE!
ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKFUL ALLELUIAS!
ENTER HIS COURTS WITH . . .

(All participants on platform FREEZE IN PLACE. The Family is in place, standing by their "seats" . . .)

HUSBAND

"You know we would have been on time is SHE hadn't taken all day in the bathroom! So now she has perfect hair and we miss half the service! . . I'm so glad we don't have to sit so close!"

KID #1

(Hits Kid #2 with elbow and rolls eyes) "There they go again!"

KID #2

"We get in trouble if we act like that! . . . Sometimes I wish someone would spank them or put them on restriction!"

KID #1

"Yeah! Brother, parents are great examples!"
(Parents give kids a "LOOK" and kids look at each other, rolling their eyes . .)

(IMMEDIATE ACTION ON STAGE. Song resumes.)

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKFUL ALLELUIAS!
ENTER HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE!
ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKFUL ALLELUIAS!
ENTER HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE!
ENTER HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE!
ENTER HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE!

(PLATFORM and "Audience" applause. As audience applause dies, participants on stage move into SLOW-MOTION, SILENT APPLAUSE . . . as lights dim on stage, lights on "Family" come up . . .)

SONG - "It's the Same Thing Every Sunday Morning"

Words & Music by ROD SCHUMACHER

(ENSEMBLE)

HUSBAND AND WIFE
IT'S THE SAME THING EV'RY SUNDAY MORNING,
EV'RY SUNDAY MORNING IT'S THE SAME . .
WIFE
WE'D HAVE BEEN HERE ON TIME, BUT IT'S FINE, I CAN HANDLE IT!
HUSBAND
I COULD ENTER YOUR GATES IF MY WIFE WEREN'T SO IRRITATING!
HUSBAND AND WIFE
EV'RY SUNDAY IT'S THE SAME!

(Well-dressed, obviously self-important woman scurry-waddles down the aisle to her seat in the congregation . . .)

WELL-DRESSED WOMAN
IT'S THE SAME THING EV'RY SUNDAY MORNING,
EV'RY SUNDAY I'M SO GLAD I CAME!
ONCE AGAIN I LOOK THE BEST!
I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE WORE THAT DRESS!
EV'RY SUNDAY IT'S THE SAME!

(Lights up on YOUNG MAN standing in the congregation . . .)

YOUNG MAN
IT'S THE SAME THING EV'RY SUNDAY MORNING,
EV'RY SUNDAY MORNING IT'S THE SAME . . .
I CAME IN WITH A SMILE,
BUT ALL THE WHILE I FEEL SO MANY MILES AWAY . . .
EV'RY SUNDAY IT'S THE SAME.

ENSEMBLE
I WONDER HOW HE FEELS, OUR FATHER UP ABOVE.
DOES HE SEE OUR HURTING HEARTS,
OUR LONGING TO BE LOVED! . . TO BE LOVED!

IT'S THE SAME THING EV'RY SUNDAY MORNING,
EV'RY SUNDAY MORNING IT'S THE SAME!
KIDS
WITH ALL OF THEIR SPATS IT'S SO HARD TO KNOW WHO TO TRUST!
WELL-DRESSED WOMAN
IT'S GOOD I CAN SHARE ALL MY LOVE FROM THE "UPPER CRUST"!
YOUNG MAN
WHY CAN'T THEY SEE HOW MY HEART ACHES INSIDE OF ME?
HUSBAND AND WIFE
WHY MUST SHE/HE DWELL ON MY FAULTS, JUST TO AGGRAVATE ME?
ALL
EV'RY SUNDAY IT'S THE SAME!

WE NEED A TOUCH FROM YOU, OUR FATHER UP ABOVE.
REACH TO OUR HURTING HEARTS, AND
HEAL THEM BY YOUR LOVE.
WE NEED YOUR LOVE!

IT'S THE SAME THING EV'RY SUNDAY MORNING, AS WE GATHER IN THIS PLACE . . .
OUR LIVES ARE CHANGED BY YOUR GRACE, AS WE LOOK UPON YOUR FACE,
AND WE'RE AMAZED BY YOUR LOVE THAT OVERTAKES FROM ABOVE,
AS WE COME INTO YOUR PRESENCE EV'RY SUNDAY! . . .

(VOCAL FUGUE)

EVERY SUNDAY!
KIDS
THOUGH WE TRY TO IGNORE! . . .
ALL
EVERY SUNDAY!
WELL-DRESSED WOMAN
THOUGH MY CLOTHES ARE "D'OR"! . . .
ALL
EVERY SUNDAY!
YOUNG MAN
THOUGH I HOLD TO MY PAIN! . . .
ALL
EVERY SUNDAY!
HUSBAND AND WIFE
THOUGH WE GROAN AND COMPLAIN! . . .
ALL
EVERY SUNDAY!
YOU'RE THE SAME!
YOU'RE THE SAME!
YOU'RE THE SAME!

(Lights out on "congregation people", and up bright on stage)

WORSHIP LEADER

(As if just completing the singing of "Enter His Gates")
". . . Well, Amen! . . Praise God! . . . It IS good to enter His gates with joyful and thankful Alleluias! . .
Amen! . . . (to audience) Visitors, we're real happy that you have come to worship with us today . .
Can I hear an "Amen" from the choir?!? . . .

CHOIR

"Amen! Praise God! etc.!"

WORSHIP LEADER

". . If you're a visitor, won't you just hold up your hand . . . Hallelujah . . . Well, there you go . .
Welcome Sister . . And a couple in the back . . My, My, there's visitors all over . . .
Amen! Praise God . . .
Welcome to our family here at Hometown Church . . . We sure hope you'll come back . .
Amen. . Church, let's sing a "family song" to these good folks! . . . . "

SONG - "WE ARE A FAMILY"

Words & Music by DAVID HOLSINGER

WE ARE A FAMILY, COMMITTED IN UNITY,
TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS CHRIST LOVES HIS CHURCH.
WE ARE EXHORTED TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER,
TO LIFT UP A BROTHER WITH WORDS THAT GIVE LIFE.

SPEAK WITH COMPASSION, BE KIND TO ANOTHER,
FORGIVING EACH OTHER AS CHRIST FORGAVE YOU.

WE ARE A FAMILY, COMMITTED IN UNITY,
TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS CHRIST LOVES HIS CHURCH . . .

(Choir and Worship Leader die away as song continues . . humming music using nonsence sylables . . . Lights come up on "Family" . . WIFE is very fidgity, complaining:)

WIFE
"We're so far back I can't even see what the Pastor is doing!"

HUSBAND
"What does it matter what the Pastor is doing during worship? . . . "

WIFE
"Well . . Well . . It's just we always sit up front! Everyone knows those are OUR seats! My goodness, people will think we're backslidden! . . . I can hear it now 'Look at that! The Campbells are PRACTICALLY on the BACK row! They're probably having MARITAL PROBLEMS!' . . Do you want people to think there's something wrong with our marriage!?! . . "

HUSBAND
"They wouldn't be the first ones, I'm sure! . . . "

WIFE
"And just WHAT is THAT supposed to mean!?! . . . "

HUSBAND
"Nothing dear . . Let's just sing . . . "

WIFE
"There you go again, changing the subject! I just can't believe that you . . "

HUSBAND
"Dear . .SING! . . "

(The KIDS react to dialogue, adding <u>small</u> ad. libs. as appropriate . . . The COUPLE begins to sing, still visibly irritated with one another . . .)

ALL
WE ARE EXHORTED TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER. TO LIFT UP A BROTHER WITH WORDS THAT GIVE LIFE.
SPEAK WITH COMPASSION, BE KIND TO ANOTHER,
FORGIVING EACH OTHER AS CHRIST FORGAVE YOU.

(As the song continues, the Lord brings conviction. The HUSBAND and WIFE stop singing and look at each other . . . They are embarrassed, but truly sorry. They begin singing again . . This time with an understanding of what the song says . . .)

BE HUMBLE AND GENTLE, BE PATIENT AND CARING, BE FILLED TO WHOLE MEASURE
WITH THE FULLNESS OF GOD.
FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT OF GOD'S FULL ANOINTING,
WE STAND ESTABLISHED IN LOVE.

HUSBAND

"Honey, I'm sorry, I'm not being very sensitive. And I'm not setting a very good example either. . . Will you forgive me? . . ."

WIFE

"Yes, I forgive you and I'm sorry I've been so silly . . . Will you forgive me? . . "

(Music broadens. The HUSBAND and WIFE embrace and then hug the KIDS. The entire family continues to worship with a very changed heart and attitude . . .)

ALL

BE HUMBLE AND GENTLE, BE PATIENT AND CARING,
BE FILLED TO WHOLE MEASURE WITH THE FULLNESS AND GOD.
FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT OF GOD'S FULL ANOINTING,
WE STAND ESTABLISHED IN LOVE.

WORSHIP LEADER

(After "conducting" the end of song, leads applause while choir continues to sing in worship . . .) ". . . Hallelujah . . It is good to be a part of the Family of God, isn't it? . . . Amen . . . In Psalms 149, verse 3, the scripture says to 'Halal' Him in the dance . . " (The music changes tempo and style during this monologue) " . . . "Halal" means to make a show, be clamously foolish; to boast, rave; to celebrate, to rejoice! . . . King David was so moved of God that he "Halaled", danced, through the streets! THAT was quite a story in Second Samuel Six! . . Amen! . . Let us be moved by God to dance and celebrate before Him this morning! . . . If you feel a little inhibited, just bounce up and down, Amen! . . or do the "David Shuffle" . . Like this (He does it), Hallelujah! Amen! . . . Come on! Let's celebrate!"

"EVERY SUNDAY"

SCENE TWO

SONG - "Dance, O Daughters of Zion"

Words by MIMI RIBBLE
Music by MIMI RIBBLE and DAVID HOLSINGER

DANCE, O DAUGHTERS OF ZION!
DANCE, YE WARRIORS OF JUDAH'S ARMY!
DANCE, O CHILDREN OF ISRAEL,
DANCE BEFORE THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT!

FOR GOD INHABITS THE PRAISES,
THE PRAISES OF HIS PEOPLE!
WITH POW'R AND MIGHT HE IS MANIFEST
TO DESTROY THE WORKS,
DESTROY THE WORKS,
DESTROY THE WORKS OF EVIL!

(Lights on stage slowly begin to dim and lights on MR. & MRS. DAVID, in the "congregation", begin to come up . . . Audience focus is drawn to "congregation couple" . . .)

MRS. DAVID
(MRS. DAVID just stares around while her husband MR. DAVID, begins to dance before the Lord; timidly at first, then with full exuberance out into the aisle and toward the stage . . .)

(Ensemble decresendos. Platform groups look animated, but should recede to "background status" . . .)

"Oh, my word! . . . Will you look at him! . . David! . . . Come back here this minute! . . I have never been so . . .Oh my! . . You stop that! . . (To person next to her) He's usually not like this . . . He hasn't been well . . Not well at all! . . ! . . " (Looks over to discover that woman to whom she has been talking is also dancing enthusiastically . . . MRS. DAVID does "slow-burn" double-take to audience . .)

(From the "balcony" area, lights up on MICHAL, King David's wife (in period dress) watching MR. DAVID/KING DAVID dance about the stage . . .)

(Dialogue in quick succession)

MICHAL
"I can't believe this! . . . "
MRS. DAVID
"I can't believe this! . . . "
MICHAL
"I shoulda listened to my Mother! . . . "
MRS. DAVID
"I shoulda listened to my Mother! . . . "
MICHAL
"She said you were nuts! . . . "
MRS. DAVID
"She said you were nuts! . . . "
MICHAL
"DAVID! Cut that out!"
MRS. DAVID
"Oooo . . I'm SO embarrassed! . . . "
MICHAL
(To MRS. DAVID) "You're embarrassed? . . . Look Sweetie, your husband's just a Used-car salesman. MINE is the KING! . . . You wanna talk embarrassed! . . . Oy Vey! . . ."

SONG - "Michal's Song"
Words & Music by MIMI RIBBLE

MICHAL
LOOK AT HIM OVER THERE!
THAT'S NOT WHAT THE KING SHOULD WEAR!
HE'S ACTING LIKE A FOOL;
YES, JUST LIKE A FOOL!
LOOK AT DAVID OVER THERE . . .
DANCING IN HIS UNDERWEAR!

(MICHAL'S SONG cont.)

HE'S TAKEN OFF HIS BEAUTIFUL CLOTHES!
I'D SAY HE'S QUITE INDISPOSED!
THERE ON THE GROUND LIES HIS REGAL CROWN,
WHILE LEAPING AND SPINNING HE GOES!
WITH MOST OF HIS BODY EXPOSED!

WHEN YOU GO TO PRAYER, NEVER ACT THAT WAY;
YOU MUST BE QUIET AS A MOUSE.
DON'T MOVE AROUND, DON'T MAKE A SOUND,
FOR JEHOVAH'S IN HIS HOUSE.
YOU CLOSE YOUR EYES
AND BREATHE SOFT SIGHS,
YOUR HANDS YOU REV-ER-RENT-LY FOLD.
MOVEMENT IN THE "SOY-VISS" (Service)
ONLY MAKES GOD "NOY-VISS" (Nervous)
FOR JEHOVAH IS VERY . . VERY . . OLD! . . . .

MICHAL

(Over music) "Oh my, doesn't the king look distinguished today! . . Disrobing in the sight of slave girls and servants! . . Just like any vulgar fellow would! You are an embarrassment to me and my father's house! Come in and act like the king you were chosen to be! . . . "

KING DAVID / MR. DAVID

"I am dancing for the Lord who chose me as a king over Israel, not your father or anyone from this house! I will celebrate before the Lord! I will act even more undignified than this and even be humiliated in my own eyes, but the slave girls you spoke of will hold me in honor! . . . "

MICHAL

(Continues song)

WHAT WILL PEOPLE THINK OF ME?
I'VE AN IMAGE TO MAINTAIN YOU SEE!
I'M THE WIFE OF THE KING!
WHAT DISGRACE THIS WILL BRING!
OH WHAT IF MY FRIENDS SHOULD SEE!
WHAT'LL THEY THINK OF ME?!?

LOOK AT HIM OVER THERE!

CHOIR
WHERE?

MICHAL
THAT'S NOT WHAT A KING SHOULD WEAR!

CHOIR
OH MY!

MICHAL
HE'S ACTING LIKE A FOOL!
MRS. DAVID
YES, JUST LIKE A FOOL!
MICHAL, MRS. DAVID, and CHOIR
LOOK AT DAVID OVER, DAVID OVER, DAVID OVER THERE . . .

CHOIR
HE'S DANCING! . . .
MICHAL
"He's leaping and spinning! . . . "
CHOIR
HE'S DANCING! . . .
MICHAL
"He's skipping around and around! . . . "
CHOIR
HE'S DANCING! . . .
MICHAL
"Oy Vey! He's jumping and jiving! . . . "
CHOIR
HE'S DANCING! . . .
MICHAL
"He's running through troops and leaping walls! . . . "
CHOIR
HE'S DANCING . . DANCING . . DANCING . .
MICHAL
"He's even waving a TAMBOURI-I-I-I-I-I-INE! . . . "
CHOIR
DANCING . . DANCING . . DANCING! . . .
MICHAL and CHOIR
IN HIS UNDERWEAR! . . IN HIS UNDERWEAR!

(Lights out on MICHAL)

MRS. DAVID
"Michal's heart was so hard . . . Oh my goodness, I remember now . . .
Michal was barren her whole life . . . O Lord, will You forgive me? Please let
my life be fruitful for You . . . "
(She raises her hands and looks to Heaven . . .)

SONG - "Dance, O Daughters of Zion" Reprise

DANCE, O DAUGHTERS OF ZION! DANCE, YE WARRIORS OF JUDAH'S ARMY!
DANCE, O CHILDREN OF ISRAEL! DANCE BEFORE THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT!

(. . . As the action on the platform begins to build, MRS DAVID opens her eyes . . .
looks about her . . . . brings her hands down . . . she begins to hop a bit . . .
tentatively does a kick or two . . . and finally . . . simply shrugging
off her hesitancy . . . she BREAKS FORTH IN ABANDONED DANCING
BEFORE THE LORD! . . .)

SONG - "Take Up Your Tambourine!"
Words & Music by WARREN HASTINGS

ALL
TAKE UP YOUR TAMBOURINE AND DANCE WITH JOY!
TAKE UP YOUR TAMBOURINE AND DANCE WITH JOY!
COME LET US GO UP TO THE LORD OUR GOD!
TAKE UP YOUR TAMBOURINE AND DANCE WITH JOY!

(Scene ends at conclusion of song with applause led by on stage worship leader and choir . . .)

"EVERY SUNDAY"

SCENE THREE

WORSHIP LEADER
"Praise the Lord! . . . Whew! . . . Isn't it good to dance before the Lord? . . .Indeed, He is able to turn our mourning into dancing! Amen? Amen! . . . Well, Brothers and Sisters, let's all be seated for just a minute . . . I believe that our Music Department - the Choir, Orchestra, and dancers have a special presentation for us at this time . . . "

(The "Music Director/Band Leader" kicks off music in "Big Swing Band" style! . . .)

SONG - "Offer Up a Song of Praise"
Words & Music by MIMI RIBBLE

CHOIR
OFFER UP A SONG OF PRAISE, A SONG OF EXULTATION.
OFFER UP A DANCE OF LOVE, A DANCE OF CELEBRATION!
OFFER UP A MELODY PLAYED SKILLFULLY BEFORE THE KING,
COME BEFORE THE LORD, BRING AN OFFERING.

(OFFER UP A SONG OF PRAISE,
OFFER TO HIM A DANCE OF CELEBRATION.
PLAY YOUR MELODIES SKILLFUL FOR THE KING!
COME BEFORE THE LORD, BRING AN OFFERING.)

LORD WE LOVE TO
PRAISE YOU IN SONG!
YOU ARE OUR JOY, OUR SALVATION.
EV'RY DAY AND FOR
OUR WHOLE LIFE LONG!
WE POUR OUT OUR LOVE
AND ADORATION!

OFFER UP A SONG OF PRAISE, A SONG OF EXULTATION.
OFFER UP A DANCE OF LOVE, A DANCE OF CELEBRATION!
OFFER UP A MELODY, PLAYED FOR THE KING!
COME BEFORE THE LORD, BRING AN OFFERING!

"FEATURED" VOCALIST
LORD I LOVE TO PRAISE YOU IN SONG.
YOU ARE MY JOY, MY SALVATION.
EV'RY DAY AND FOR MY WHOLE LIFE LONG,
I'LL POUR OUT MY LOVE AND ADORATION!

OFFER UP A SONG OF PRAISE . . .
OFFER UP A SONG OF PRAISE, A SONG OF EXULTATION!
OFFER TO HIM A DANCE OF CELEBRA-EE-AA-EE-AA-TION ! . . . . ("scat sing")
OFFER UP A DANCE OF LOVE, A DANCE OF CELEBRATION!
PLAY FORTH MELODIES UNTO THE KING!
LET US PLAY, LET US DANCE, LET US SING!
OFFER UP A MELODY PLAYED SKILLFULLY BEFORE THE KING . . .
COME AND OFFER YOUR PURE OFFERING!
COME BEFORE THE LORD, BRING AN OFFERING!

(TRUMPET SOLOIST comes forward and plays a chorus . . . then FEATURED VOCALIST and TRUMPET SOLOIST play and sing a "scat" duet . . .)

"FEATURED" VOCALIST
DE-BA-DE-BA-DE-DOP! BOP!
DA-BA-DA-BA-DA-BA-DE-DOP! BOPDE-BA-DE-BA-DE-DOP! BOP!
DO-DOP! DOP! DA-DEE!
HALLELU, I SING IT!
HALLELU, I DANCE IT!
IF YOU GOT A TRUMPET, PLAY TO THE LORD!
I PRAISE HIM SINGIN' MY SONG!
DE-BA-DE-BA-DE-BA-DEE-DOP! DE-DOP! BOP!

(The "JEALOUS TRIO", a dancer, a singer, and a musician, detach themselves from the ensemble and quickly (ala Righteous indignation) "stomp" to center stage to stand in close proximity to "featured" soloists . . .)

JEALOUS SINGER
WHY DOES HE/SHE ALWAYS SING THE VERY BEST PARTS?
JEALOUS DANCER
WHY IS SHE ALWAYS PICKED TO DANCE?
JEALOUS MUSICIAN
WHY ARE THE SOLOS ALWAYS GIVEN TO HIM/HER?
TRIO
WHY DON'T THEY GIVE ME A CHANCE?

JEALOUS DANCER
I'VE STUDIED DANCE AT THE FINEST SCHOOLS!
JEALOUS SINGER
MY SINGING HAS BROUGHT CROWDS TO THEIR FEET!
TRIO
DON'T THINK THAT THIS IS PETTY JEALOUSY!
JEALOUS MUSICIAN
I KNOW THAT I'M JUST BETTER THAN HE/SHE!

MY TONES ARE LOUDER AND BRIGHTER!
JEALOUS SINGER
I'VE HAD PERFECT PITCH MOST ALL OF MY LIFE!
JEALOUS DANCER
I'VE DANCED FOR SHOWS IN THE THEATRE,
AND I CAN LEAP . . .
JEALOUS MUSICIAN
PLAY!
JEALOUS SINGER
SING!
TRIO
TWICE AS HIGH! . . .

JEALOUS MUSICIAN
YOU'D THINK THEY'D WANT TO CHOOSE THE VERY BEST!
JEALOUS DANCER
I'VE GOT MORE TALENT THAN THE REST!
JEALOUS SINGER
DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY GOD'S NOT USING ME . . .

JEALOUS MUSICIAN
WHAT DOES HE SEE IN THESE
THAT HE CAN'T SEE IN ME?
JEALOUS SINGER
O LORD, WON'T YOU SHOW ME
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU SEE . . .
TRIO
WHAT IS THE DIF'RENCE IN THEIR LIVES?
SHOW ME WHAT'S DIF'RENT IN THEIR LIVES . . .

(Lights dim on "Jealousy Trio" and FEATURED DANCER steps forward into center spot . . . Looking to Heaven, she begins to sing:)

SONG - "Search My Heart"

Words & Music by MIMI RIBBLE

DANCER
SEARCH MY HEART, O LORD, I PRAY,
REVEAL TO ME ANY UNPLEASING WAY . . .

(DANCER is joined in spot light by FEATURED SINGER . . .)

DANCER/SINGER DUET
TOUCH MY LIPS WITH THE FIRE FROM YOUR THRONE;
LET EV'RY WORD I SPEAK GLORIFY YOUR NAME ALONE . . .

(The FEATURED MUSICIAN joins the SINGER and DANCER, all three continue to sing . . .)

TRIO
DRAW ME LORD,
LEAD ME, I PRAY . . .
IN YOUR OUTER COURTS,
I'M NOT CONTENT TO STAY.
DRAW ME NOW TO YOUR HOLY PLACE,
LET ME TOUCH YOUR HEART,
AND LOOK UPON YOUR FACE . . .

TRIO WITH CHOIR
SEARCH MY HEART, O LORD, I PRAY.
REVEAL TO ME ANY UNPLEASING WAY.
TOUCH MY LIPS WITH THE FIRE FROM YOUR THRONE;
LET EV'RY WORD I SPEAK GLORIFY YOUR NAME ALONE.
DRAW ME LORD, LEAD ME, I PRAY.
IN YOUR OUTER COURTS, I'M NOT CONTENT TO STAY.
DRAW ME NOW TO YOUR HOLY PLACE;
LET ME TOUCH YOUR HEART,
AND LOOK UPON YOUR FACE.

(Lights slwly fade to centerstage. Spot up on JEALOUS SINGER, singled out, looking to Heaven, broken in countenance, obviously repentant of her jealousy, she sings UNTO THE LORD . . .)

"REPENTANT SINGER"
O LORD, PLEASE SEE IN ME . . .
ALL THAT YOU SEE IN THESE . . .
MY HEART IS OPEN TO YOUR SIGHT.
YOU ARE THE DIF'RENCE IN MY LIFE . . .

(The SINGER is joined in the circle of light by both the "Jealous" DANCER and MUSICIAN. Broken before the Lord, they begin to sing together . . .)

TRIO
SEARCH MY HEART, O LORD, I PRAY.
REVEAL TO ME ANY UNPLEASING WAY.
TOUCH MY LIFE WITH THE FIRE FROM YOUR THRONE;
LET ALL I DO
HONOR YOU ALONE.

SINGER
LET ALL I SING, HONOR YOU.
DANCER
LET ALL I DANCE, HONOR YOU.
MUSICIAN
LET ALL I PLAY, HONOR YOU.
TRIO
HONOR YOU ALONE.

(Original "FEATURED TRIO" joins the REPENTANT TRIO in the circle of light. As the choir enters, the two trios sing unison lead:)

SEXTET
LET ALL I SING, HONOR YOU.
LET ALL I DANCE, HONOR YOU.
LET ALL I PLAY, HONOR YOU.
HONOR YOU ALONE.

FULL ENSEMBLE
LET ALL I SING, LET ALL I SING, HONOR YOU.
LET ALL I DANCE, LET ALL I DANCE, HONOR YOU.
LET ALL I PLAY, HONOR YOU.
HONOR YOU ALONE.
HONOR YOU ALONE.
HONOR YOU ALONE.

(The circle of light spreads outward from the PERFORMER SEXTET til the entire stage is bright, as the musical returns to the original "SPECIAL MUSIC" Finale; however, this time there is NO "jealous trio" apparent, only two singers, two dancers, and two musicians very much "in one accord", HONORING THE LORD WITH THEIR TALENT . . .)

SONG - "Offer Up a Song of Praise" Reprise

Additional material by David Holsinger

CHOIR
LORD, I LOVE TO PRAISE YOU IN SONG!
YOU ARE MY JOY, MY SALVATION!
EV'RY DAY AND FOR MY WHOLE LIFE LONG!
I'LL POUR OUT MY LOVE AND ADORATION!

OFFER UP A SONG TO HONOR YOU.
OFFER UP A DANCE TO HONOR YOU.
OFFER UP A LIFE PLAYED PERFECTLY TRUE!
WE BRING BEFORE THE KING!
WE BRING AN OFFERING!
WE BRING OUR KING A LIFE OF PRAISE!
LIFE OF PRAISE!

(During applause for "Special Music", lights on stage slowly dim and spot comes up slowly on UNSAVED MAN. Music vamp begins under applause.)

SONG - "Soliloquy #1"

Adapted from words & music by ROD SCHUMACHER

UNSAVED MAN
I'M REALLY NOT SURE WHY I CAME HERE TODAY . . .
WELL, IT'S NOT AT ALL LIKE ME, YOU SEE . . .
I'M THE KIND WHO CAN MAKE IT . . . ON MY OWN . . .

(Spot on UNSAVED MAN: Suddenly out.)

"EVERY SUNDAY"

SCENE FIVE

(Music begins)

WORSHIP LEADER

". . . Your Heavenly Father is a perfect father. He is faithful and generous, kind and just; He disciplines with love, and He longs to spend time with you . . . Your Father wants you to receive His love and to know that you are special and unique in His eyes . . . (prays) O thank you, Father, that You love us with an unconditional love, an amazing love, a perfect love that overwhelms us with it's faithfulness . . . "

SONG - "Amazing"

Words & Music by RICK MORRISON and AMBER BROWNING

ALL

AMAZING . . . FATHER, YOU'RE AMAZING.
YOUR LOVE FOR ME IS OVERWHELMING, YOU'RE AMAZING.
YOUR PERFECT LOVE NEVER ENDS IN SPITE OF ME.
AMAZING, MY HEART CRIES OUT, AMAZING.
(repeats)

YOUNG MAN
(Singing in counterpoint to choir)
AMAZING . . .
WHAT HAVE YOU EVER DONE FOR ME?
FATHER, YOU'RE AMAZING . . .
YOU WERE NEVER THERE WHEN I NEEDED YOU TO BE!
YOUR LOVE FOR ME IS OVERWHELMING,
YOU SAY YOU LOVE ME,
YOU'RE AMAZING . . .
BUT I'VE NEVER FELT A FATHER'S LOVE . . .
YOUR PERFECT LOVE . . .
DON'T EXPECT ME TO TRUST YOU NOW!
NEVER ENDS IN SPITE OF ME . . .
YOU'D PROBABLY FAIL ME ANYHOW!
AMAZING . . .
THO' ONCE I REALLY CARED . . .
MY HEART CRIES OUT, AMAZING.
MY HEART WON'T LET ME DARE TO LOVE YOU . . .

YOUNG MAN

"Amazing . . . (cynical) Oh yeah, God, I'm amazed! I'm amazed that all these people can be so blind! How can they talk about YOUR Perfect Love, YOUR faithfulness, and all YOUR mercy when they've never seen it?!? . . . At least, I never have . . . The Father-heart of God? . . . I've never seen THAT either! . . .My Dad? . . . Oh, my Dad had a heart . . for HIS work, HIS sales, HIS trends and promotions, HIS profit margins, HIS business cronies! . . . Oh yeah, he had a heart . . . (Quieter, sadly) . . There just never seem to be enough room left over for me . . . I remember when I was seven . . . "

SONG - "Broken Promises and Shattered Dreams"

Words & Music by MIMI RIBBLE

YOUNG MAN
WHEN I WAS SEVEN . . .
I CAME RUNNING HOME TO SHOW HIM MY REPORT CARD . . .
I WAS PROUD OF ALL THE GRADES ON MY REPORT CARD.
I THOUGHT HE'D BE . . JUST AS PROUD OF ME . . .
AND AT ELEVEN . . .
HE SAID HE'D TAKE MY FRIEND N' ME OUT FISHIN' . . .
WE WERE PACKED AND WAITIN' AT THE DOOR FOR FISHIN' . . .
HE NEVER CAME.
I WAS ASHAMED.

BROKEN PROMISES AND SHATTERED DREAMS,
THESE ARE THE ONLY THINGS MY FATHER GAVE TO ME.
BROKEN PROMISES AND SHATTERED DREAMS.
SO I LOCK MY HEART . . .
AND HID THE KEY.

WENT TO A PICNIC . . .
I WATCHED THE OTHER DADS PLAY WITH MY BUDDIES.
THEY WRESTLED AND THEY LAUGHED, THEY SURE WERE BUDDIES . . .
HE WASN'T THERE;
I GUESS HE NEVER CARED.
WHEN I PLAYED BASEBALL . . .
HE NEVER CAME TO WATCH ME PITCH ONE SINGLE INNING . . .
HE NEVER ASKED ME IF MY TEAM DID ANY WINNING . . .
MY FRIENDS ASKED WHY . .
I TOLD THEM LIES.

BROKEN PROMISES AND SHATTERED DREAMS,
THESE ARE THE ONLY THINGS MY FATHER GAVE TO ME.
HE GAVE ME BROKEN PROMISES AND SHATTERED DREAMS.
SO I LOCKED MY HEART . . .
AND HID THE KEY.

WHEN I WAS FIFTEEN . . .
I GAVE MY HEART TO CHRIST! I WAS SO HAPPY!
I RAN STRAIGHT HOME TO TELL HIM MY GOOD NEWS!
BUT WHEN I TOLD HIM . . .
HE LAUGHED AND THEN HE SAID "THAT STUFF'S FOR SISSIES!"
"GROW UP! BE A MAN! DON'T BE A SISSY!"
HE SHOOK HIS HEAD . . .
I WISHED THAT HE WERE DEAD!

BROKEN PROMISES AND SHATTERED DREAMS,
THESE ARE THE ONLY THINGS MY FATHER GAVE TO ME.
HE GAVE ME BROKEN PROMISES AND SHATTERED DREAMS.
SO I LOCKED MY HEART . . . AND HID THE KEY.
SO I LOCKED MY HEART . . AND HID THE KEY.
I LOCKED MY HEART . . .
AND HID THE KEY . .

YOUNG MAN

" . . . All I ever really wanted was to hear him say, 'I love you, son . . . '
If you're such a God of Love . . . Why didn't you make my father love me?!! . . . "

(The YOUNG MAN sinks slowly to his knees; his head, his body, his entire countenance bowed in sadness, rejection, and DEFEAT . . . He is bathed in a single light, totally alone . . the light fades as . . .)

"My Son" / "Father-Heart"

Words & Music by ROD SCHUMACHER and DAVID HOLSINGER

(. . . A second spot comes up on DANCER in similiar defeated position as the YOUNG MAN . . . The dancer interpretes the "healing" of the young man during the music of the SONG OF GOD . . .)

THE SONG OF GOD
MY SON . . . I FEEL YOUR PAIN . . .
I'VE SHARED EACH TEAR YOU'VE CRIED,
AND I KNOW IT HURTS . .
AND I KNOW IT'S HARD . .
BUT KNOW THAT EV'RY PLACE YOU'VE BEEN,
EACH TIME YOU FALL, EACH TIME YOU SIN . . .
I'VE BEEN THERE.
I'VE BEEN THERE.
AND THERE IS HEALING IN MY LOVE,
AND THERE IS COMFORT FROM THE STORMS OF LIFE
THAT BLOW AGAINST YOUR SOUL . . .
SO LAY ASIDE YOUR HURTING HEART
AND FIND A SHELTER IN MY LOVING ARMS.

MY FATHER-HEART
IS STRONG ENOUGH TO HOLD YOUR HURT,
IT'S STRONG ENOUGH TO LIFT THE WEIGHT OF SIN,
TO BIND THE GUILT WITHIN,
TO SEAL THE PAIN THAT'S RULED YOUR LIFE.
MY FATHER-HEART
IS BIG ENOUGH TO HOLD YOUR CARES,
SOFT ENOUGH TO DRY YOUR ANGRY TEARS,
AND CALM THE NAGGING FEARS,
AND HOLD YOU CLOSE AND WARM AND SAFE.

I AM A GOD WHO IS JEALOUS OF THOSE WHOM I CALL MY OWN,
FOR BEFORE YOU WERE FORMED;
ON THE PALM OF MY HAND YOUR NAME WAS KNOWN!

MY FATHER-HEART
IS STRONG ENOUGH TO GUARD YOUR LOVE,
GIVING GRACE TO SEIZE THE MOMENT WHERE,
YOUR HEART CAN EVEN DARE,
TO OPEN TO MY FATHER-LOVE, AND KNOW . . .

(VOICES OF EXHORTATION from within the choir, each voice following the previous voice immediately)

(As a part of interpretive dance, additional dancers should be added to the "ensemble picture" as voices enter . . .)

SPEAKER #1

". . Know . . that I will be a FATHER to you and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty! . . . "

SPEAKER #2

"The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love! . . . As far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our trangressions from us . . . As a FATHER pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear Him!"

SPEAKER #3

"My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord . . . For the Lord disciplines him who He loves, and chastises every SON He receives . . . "

SPEAKER #4

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the FATHER of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our afflictions! . . . "

SPEAKER #5

"FATHER OF THE FATHERLESS, and protector of widows is God in His holy habitation! God gives the desolate a home to dwell in . . . "

SPEAKER #6

"He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty, will say of the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress; My God, in whom I trust . . . For HE will deliver you! . . . "

THE SONG OF GOD
MY SON . . . I FEEL YOUR PAIN . . .
I'VE SHARED EACH TEAR YOU'VE CRIED . . .
AND I KNOW IT HURTS
AND I KNOW IT'S HARD
BUT KNOW THAT EV'RY STEP YOU TAKE,
EACH TRIAL YOU FACE,
EACH DAY YOU WAKE . . .
I AM HERE,
YOUR FATHER'S HERE.
AND MY FATHER-HEART
WILL CARRY YOU.

(DANCER and DEFEATED MAN are bathed in single circle of light . . . DANCER "encourages" as MAN unfolds, lifts hands and head Heavenward. A smile coming to his face, Joy on his countenance, displaying to all that he is a "new creation", LOVED BY HIS FATHER IN HEAVEN, the YOUNG MAN sings:)

YOUNG MAN
AMAZING! FATHER, YOU'RE AMAZING!
YOUR LOVE FOR ME IS OVERWHELMING, YOU'RE AMAZING!
YOUR PERFECT LOVE
NEVER ENDS IN SPITE OF ME
LORD, YOU'RE AMAZING,
I SING OUT, AMAZING!
AMAZING, MY HEART CRIES OUT, AMAZING!

(Lights come up on choir and worship team as we rejoin the service on the platform . . .)

CHOIR / YOUNG MAN
AMAZING,
HOW COULD I EVER HAVE BEEN SO BLIND? . . .
FATHER, YOU'RE AMAZING!
I LET DESPAIR AND ANGER CLOSE MY MIND!
YOUR LOVE FOR ME IS OVERWHELMING,
THO' ONCE I DOUBTED YOU,
YOU'RE AMAZING!
NOW I CAN FEEL YOUR FATHER-LOVE!
YOUR PERFECT LOVE,
I WANT YOUR PERFECT LOVE REFLECTED IN MY EYES!
NEVER ENDS IN SPITE OF ME.
YOU ARE AMAZING, LORD, AND MORE, I REALIZE,
AMAZING.
I GIVE MY ALL TO YOU,
MY HEART CRIES OUT,AMAZING!
FOREVER BLESSED TO BE A CHILD OF GOD!

FULL ENSEMBLE
AMAZING! FATHER, YOU'RE AMAZING!
YOUR LOVE FOR ME IS OVERWHELMING, YOU'RE AMAZING!
YOUR PERFECT LOVE NEVER ENDS IN SPITE OF ME.
LORD, YOU'RE AMAZING,
I SING OUT, AMAZING!
AMAZING, O LORD, YOU'RE AMAZING!
AMAZING,
FOR YOUR PERFECT LOVE, LORD,
MY HEART SINGS OUT AMAZED!

"EVERY SUNDAY"

SCENE SIX

(Piano music vamp begins during applause for scene five. Lights on full stage begin to dim til once again, only the UNSAVED MAN is highlighted . . . As he begins to sing his opening Soliliquy, he moves onto stage center . . .)

SONG - "Soliliquy" & "God, You Are My Life"

Words & Music by ROD SCHUMACHER

UNSAVED MAN
I'M NOT REALLY SURE WHY I CAME HERE TODAY . . .
WELL, IT'S JUST NOT AT ALL LIKE ME, YOU SEE . . .
I'M THE KIND WHO CAN MAKE IT
ON MY OWN . . .

BUT I DON'T KNOW, THERE'S BEEN SOMETHING MISSING IN ME
FOR A VERY LONG TIME NOW.
I DON'T KNOW,
I GUESS I THOUGHT I MIGHT FIND IT HERE.

AS I'M STANDING HERE
I FEEL A FEELING DEEP INSIDE.
JUST LIKE MY LIFE'S BEGUN ANEW!
AND I REALIZE
THAT EMPTY PLACE INSIDE MY HEART
WAS WAITING TO BE FILLED BY YOU.
FOR YEARS I LOOKED,
NOT KNOWING WHAT MY LONELY HEART WAS LOOKING FOR,
NOW I'VE FOUND IT IN YOU!

GOD! YOU ARE MY LIFE!
YOU ARE THE FAITHFUL FRIEND BEYOND THE END OF TIME!
GOD! MY SAVIOR!
MY LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS,
I OFFER YOU PRAISE!

REPRISE - "We Need a Touch From You"

UNSAVED MAN
I NEED A TOUCH FROM YOU, MY FATHER UP ABOVE.
REACH TO MY HURTING HEART,
AND HEAL ME BY YOUR LOVE!

(The UNSAVED MAN is joined center stage by MR. & MRS, DAVID, the YOUNG MAN from scene five, and the two DANCERS of scene three . . . Together they sing:)

WE NEED A TOUCH FROM YOU, OUR FATHER UP ABOVE,
REACH TO OUR HURTING HEARTS
AND HEAL THEM BY YOUR LOVE!

(The group surrounding the UNSAVED MAN in center stage is joined by the FAMILY and the WELL-DRESSED WOMAN from scene one, and the two SINGERS of scene three . . .
Together they sing:)

WE NEED A TOUCH FROM YOU, OUR FATHER UP ABOVE;
REACH TO OUR HURTING HEARTS
AND HEAL US BY YOUR LOVE,
WE NEED YOUR LOVE!

GOD! YOU ARE MY LIFE!
YOU ARE THE FAITHFUL FRIEND BEYOND THE END OF TIME!
GOD! MY SAVIOR!
MY LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS,
I OFFER YOU PRAISE!

(As center-stage ENSEMBLE repeats chorus, the lights on the full stage come up slowly as the CHOIR and WORSHIP TEAM also join in this celebration of the MAN's SALVATION! . . .)

FULL ENSEMBLE
GOD! YOU ARE MY LIFE!
YOU ARE THE FAITHFUL FRIEND BEYOND THE END OF TIME!
GOD! MY SAVIOR!
MY LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS,
I OFFER YOU PRAISE!
(Several Repeats)

I GIVE YOU PRAISE!
THANK YOU! JESUS, THANK YOU!
I GIVE YOU PRAISE!
THANK YOU! JESUS, THANK YOU!
(Repeats)

UNSAVED MAN
I'M SAVED! . . .

ENSEMBLE
THANK YOU LORD!

"EVERY SUNDAY"

IT'S SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE AT HOMETOWN CHURCH, U.S.A.,
AND SOME THINGS JUST NEVER CHANGE . . .
A DRAMA-MUSICAL CELEBRATING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!

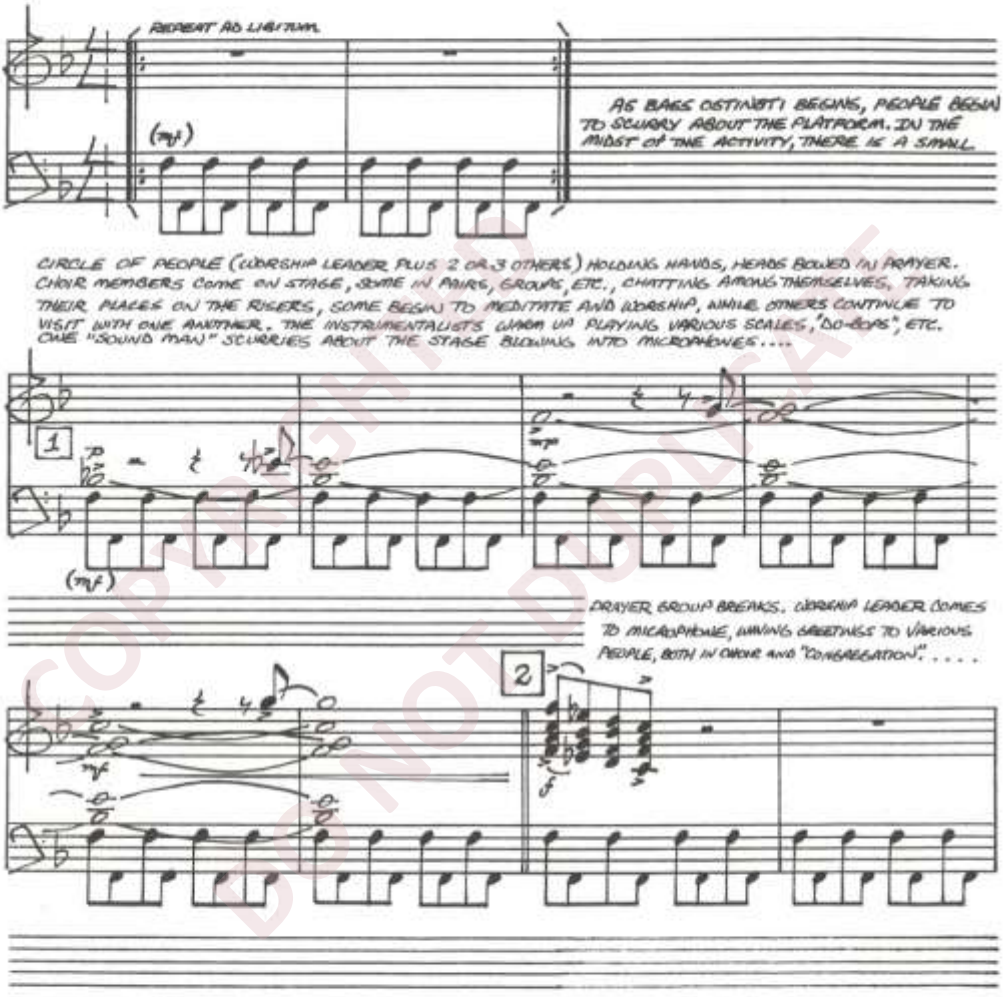
Book by
Yvonne Ward, Rod Schumacher,
Virginia Russell, Mimi Ribble, and David Holsinger
Arranged and Orchestrated by David Holsinger (ASCAP)

MUSIC

"EVERY SUNDAY" / SCENE ONE

Intro Music & "Enter His Gates"

Words & Music by DAVID HOLSINGER



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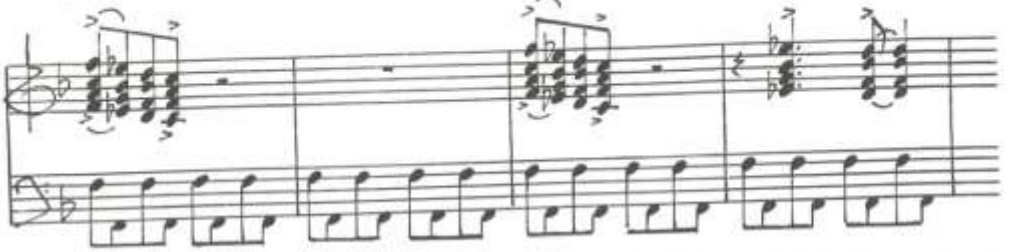
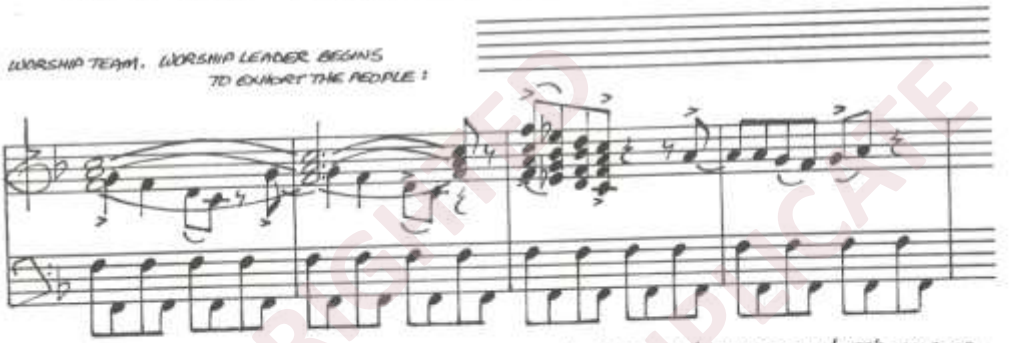
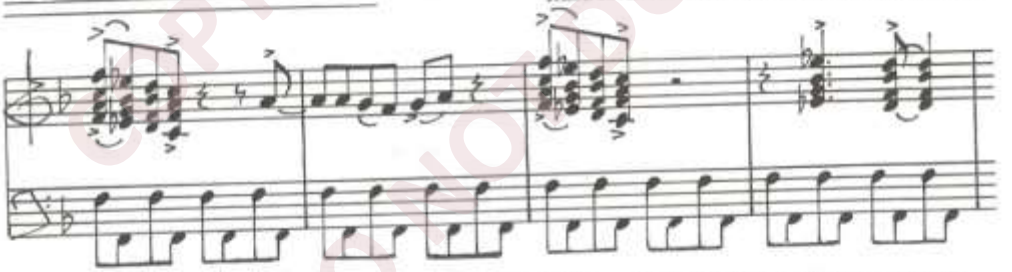
... CHOIR BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE! DANCERS BEGIN TO ASSEMBLE BEHIND WORSHIP LEADER AND



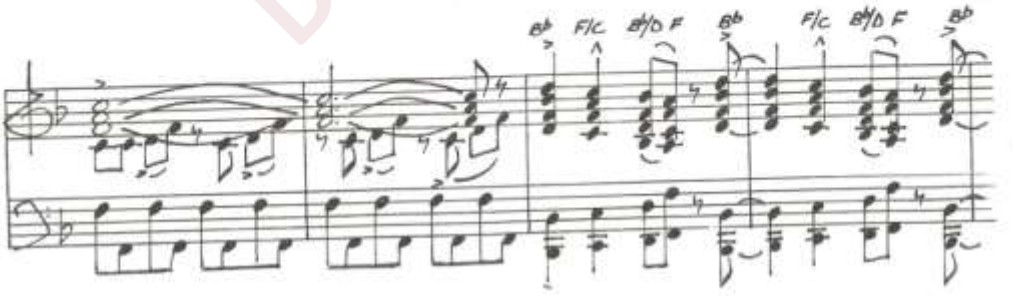
WORSHIP TEAM. WORSHIP LEADER BEGINS TO EXHORT THE PEOPLE:



WORSHIP LEADER: "HALLELUJAH! PRAISE GOD! IT'S SO GOOD TO SEE YOU HERE ON THIS BEAUTIFUL SUNDAY MORNING!... HAVE YOU COME TO PRAISE THE



LORD TODAY?" (CHOIR: AMEN! RIGHT ON, BROTHER! ETC.) "WELL... AMEN! PSALM 100 SAYS WE ARE TO



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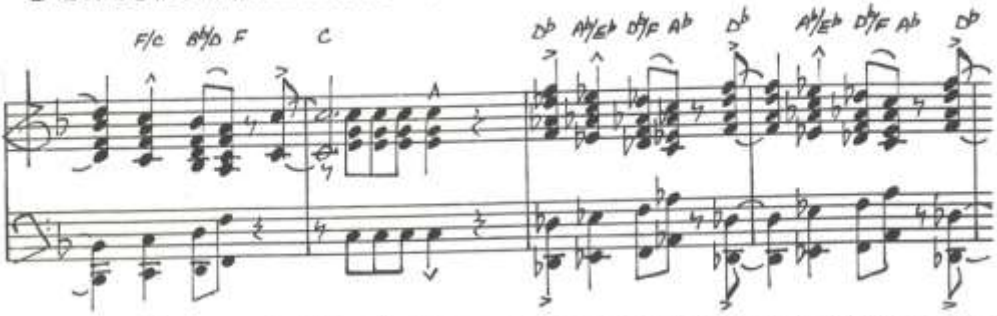
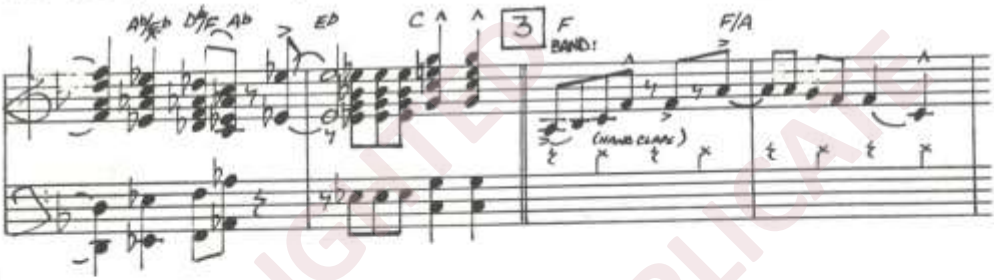
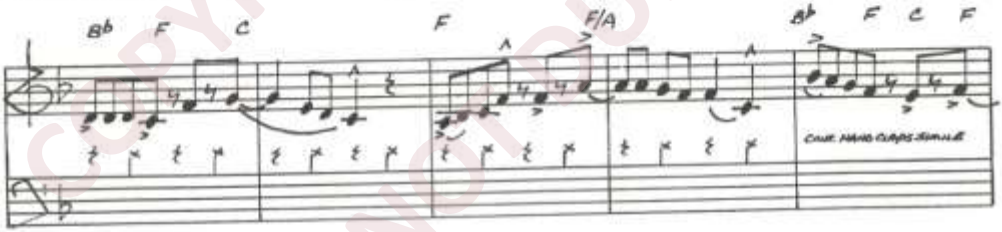
'ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING AND INTO HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE!' ARE YOU READY TO ENTER



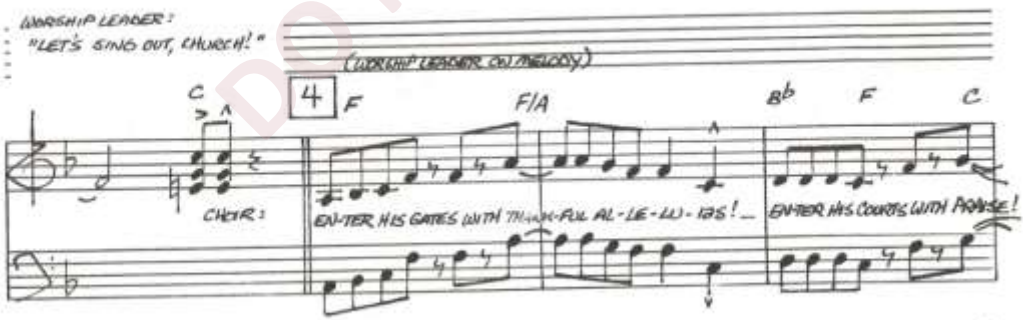
AND PRAISE!' (CHOIR: AMEN! ETC.) AMEN! LET'S GET OUR HANDS TOGETHER AS THE CHURCH BAND BREAKS FORTH



IN JOY! HALLELUJAH!" (BEGINS CLAPPING!) (VARIOUS AD LIBITUM EXCLAMATIONS FROM CHOIR)...



WORSHIP LEADER:
"LET'S SING OUT, CHURCH!"



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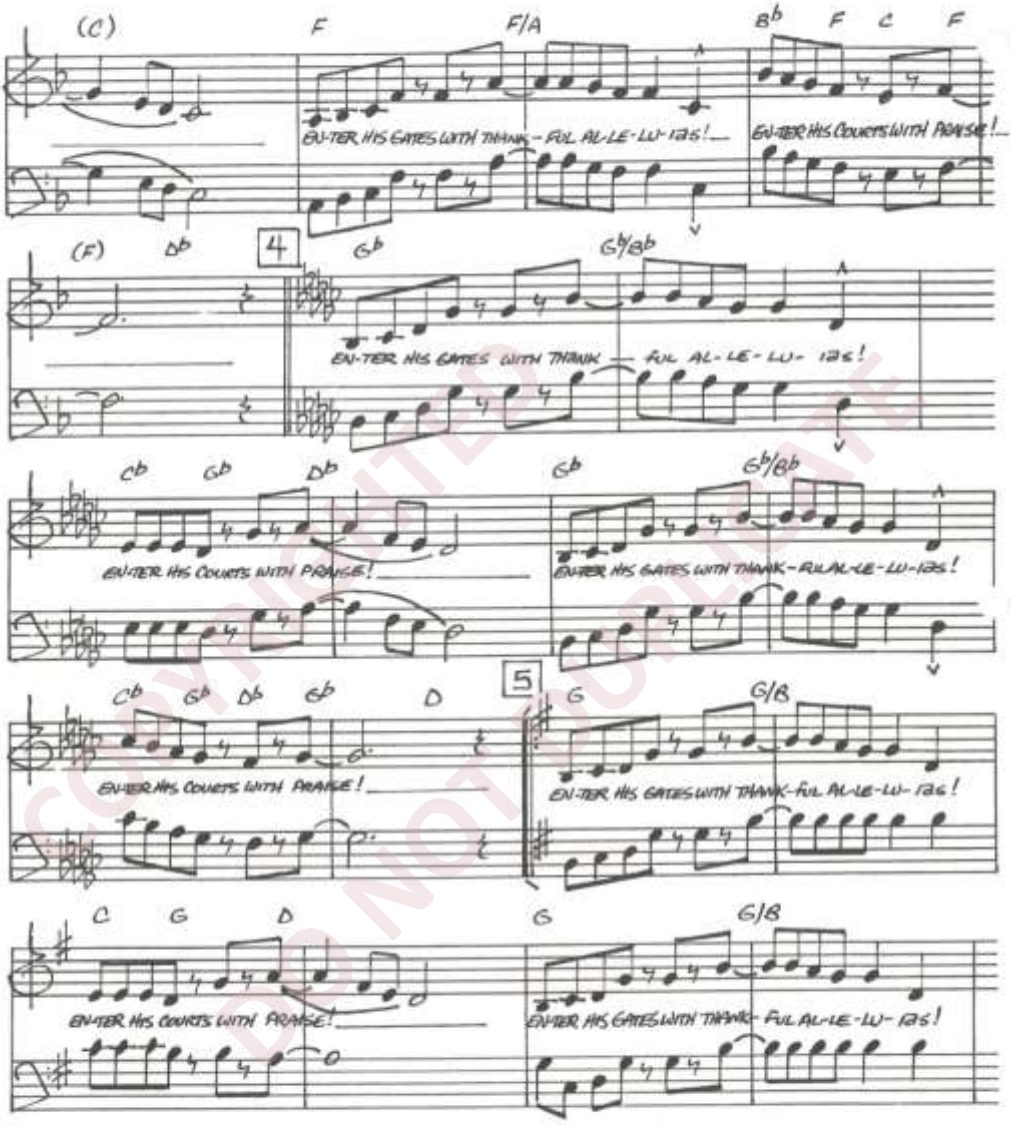

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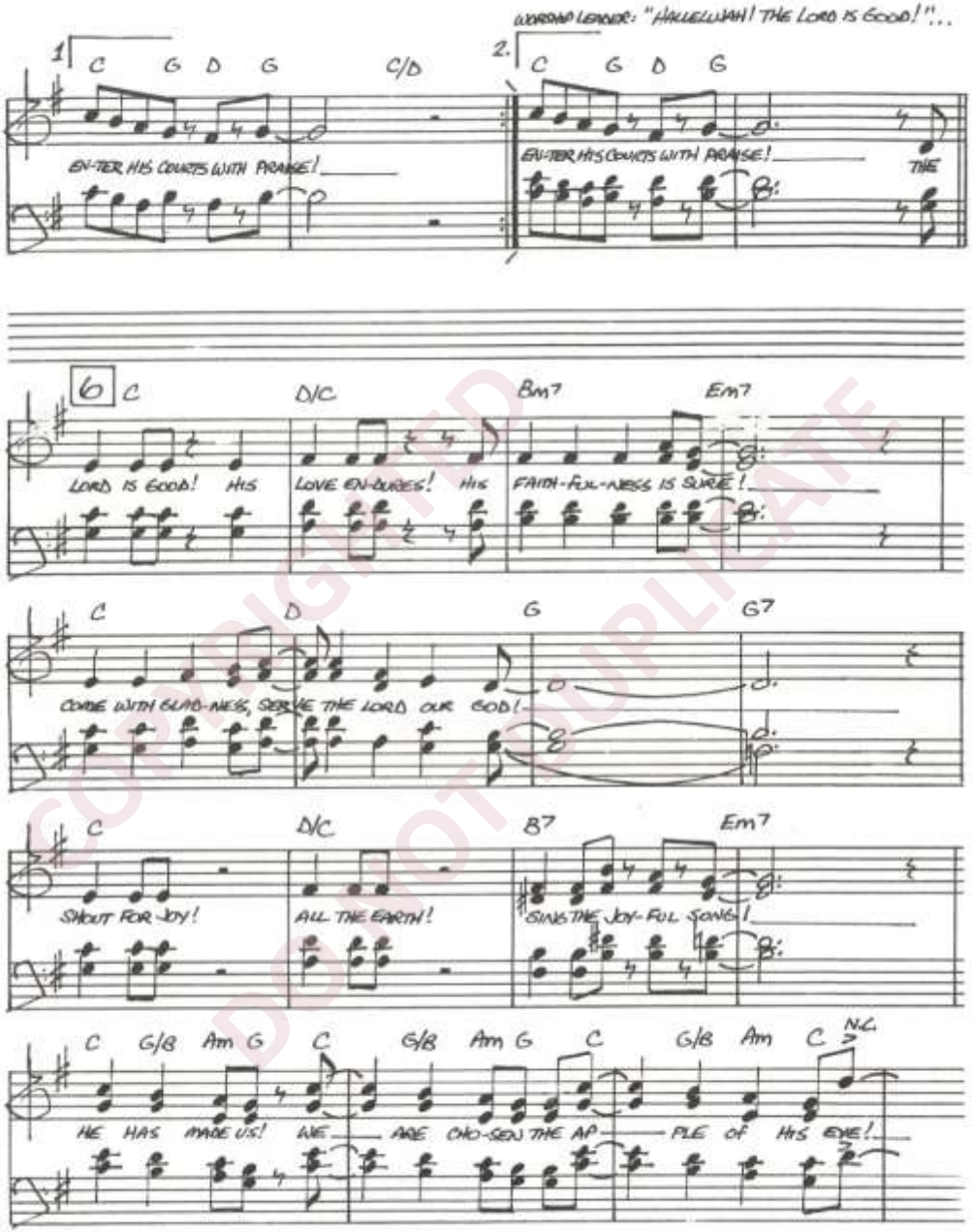

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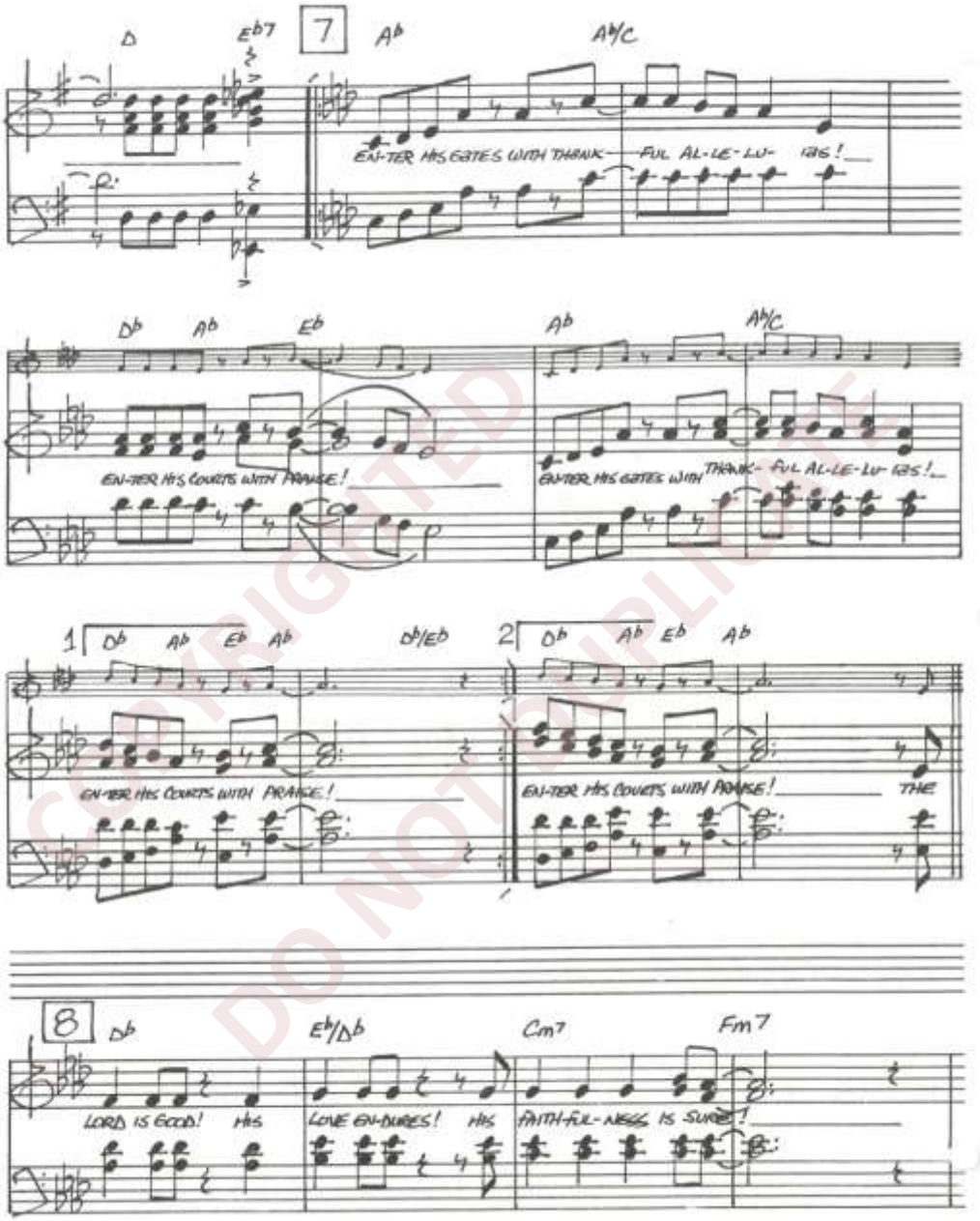

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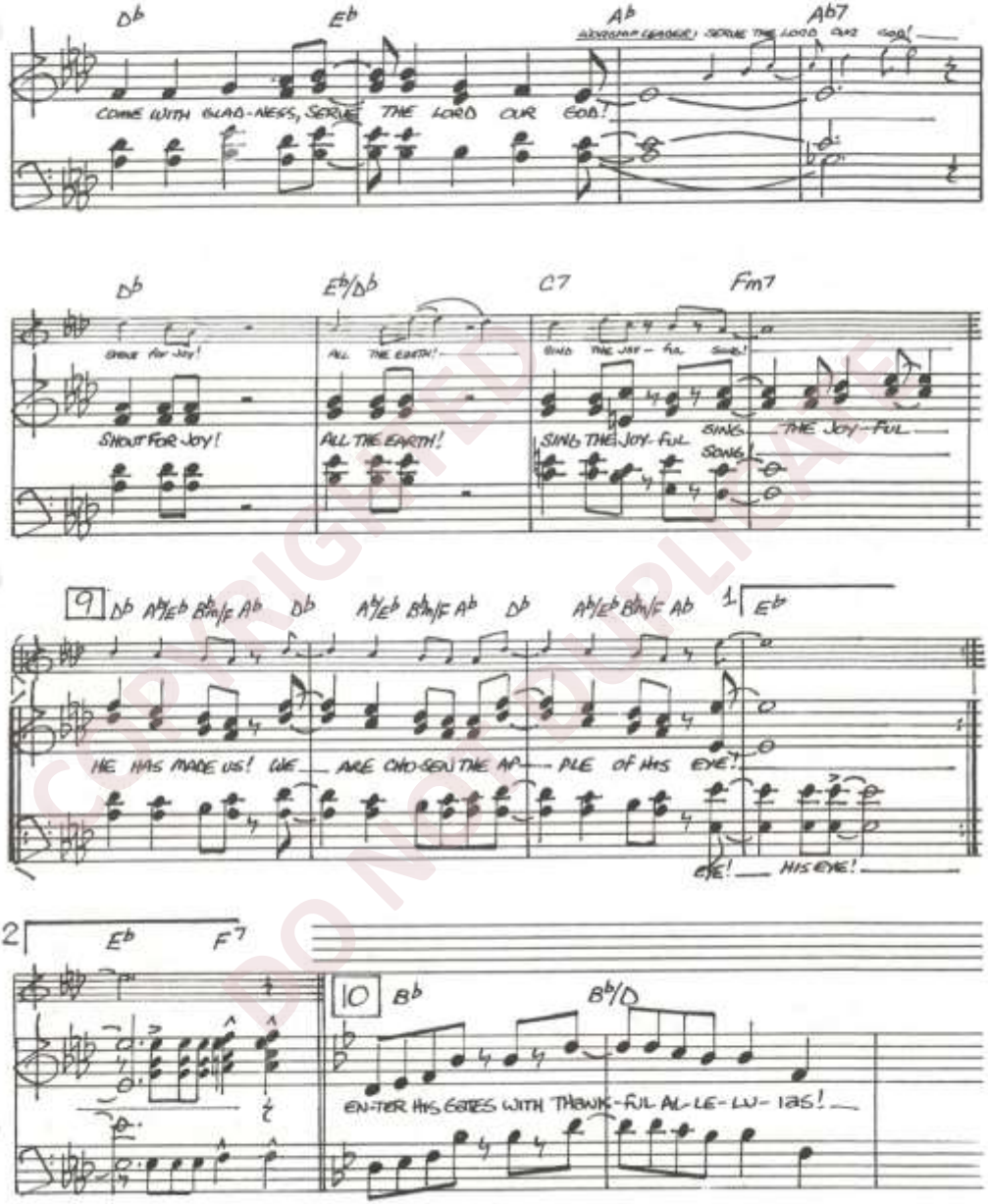

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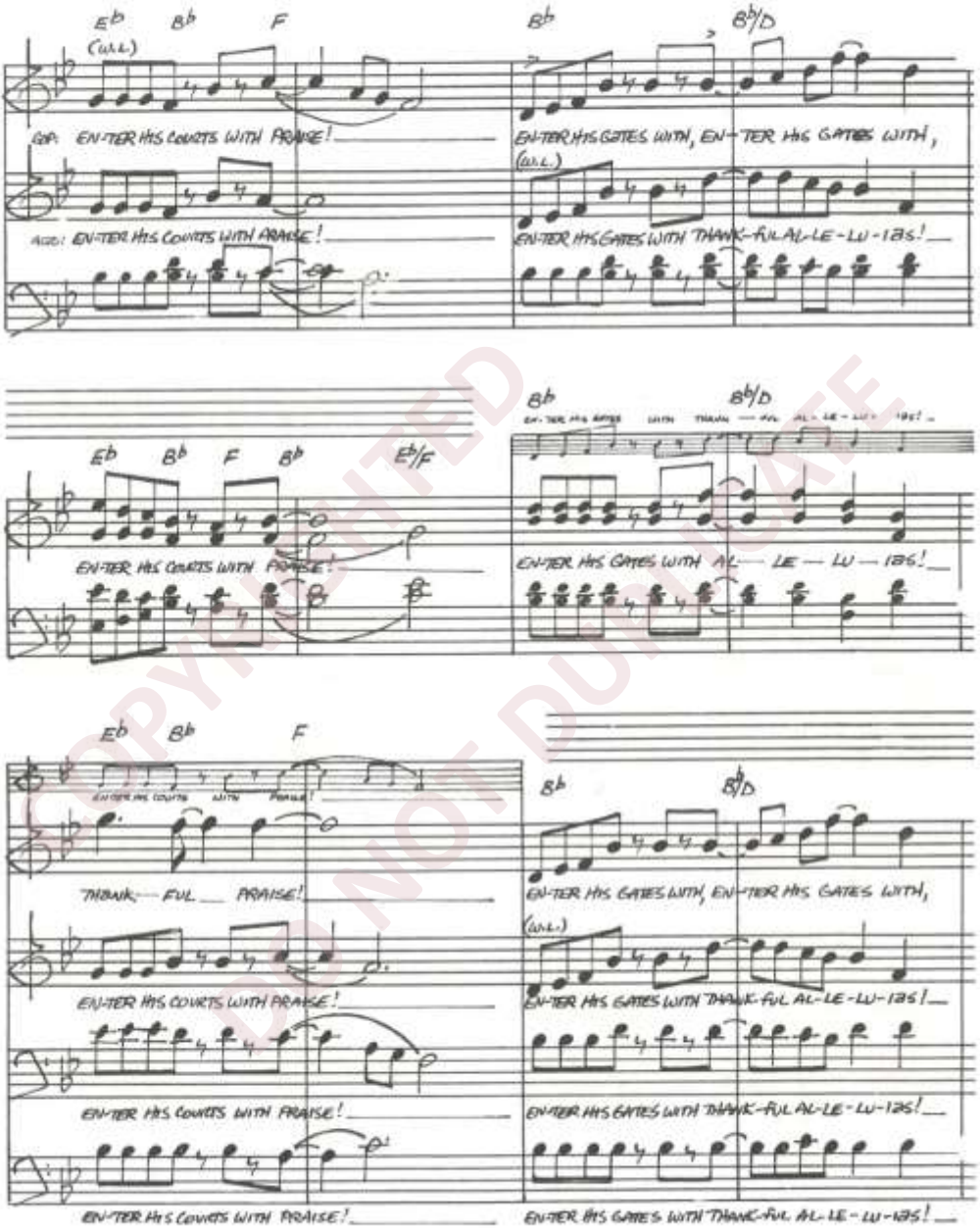

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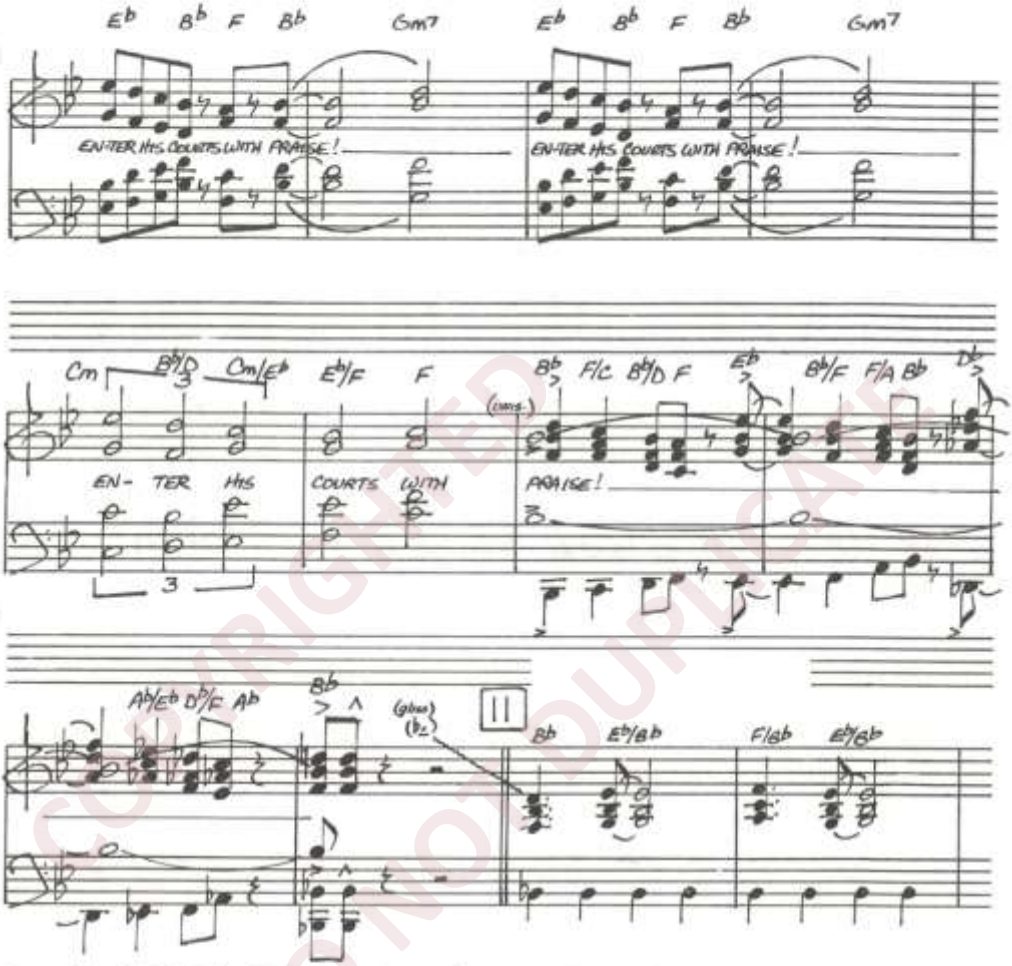
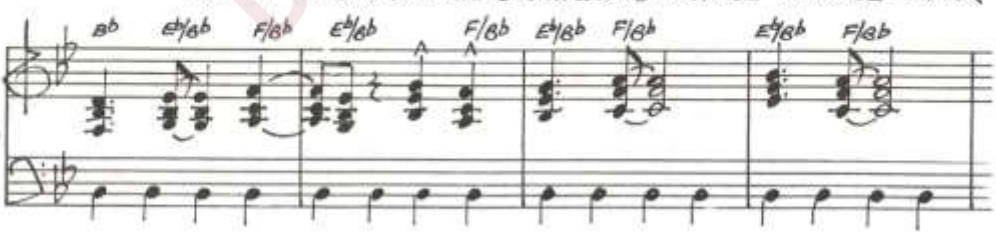


WORSHIP LEADER (ad lib): "PRAISE THE LORD! PSALM 40 SAYS HE HAS PUT A NEW SONG IN MY MOUTH, A HYMN OF PRAISE TO OUR GOD! MANY WILL SEE AND FEAR AND PUT THEIR TRUST IN THE LORD!... LET US CONTINUE TO PRAISE HIM FOR



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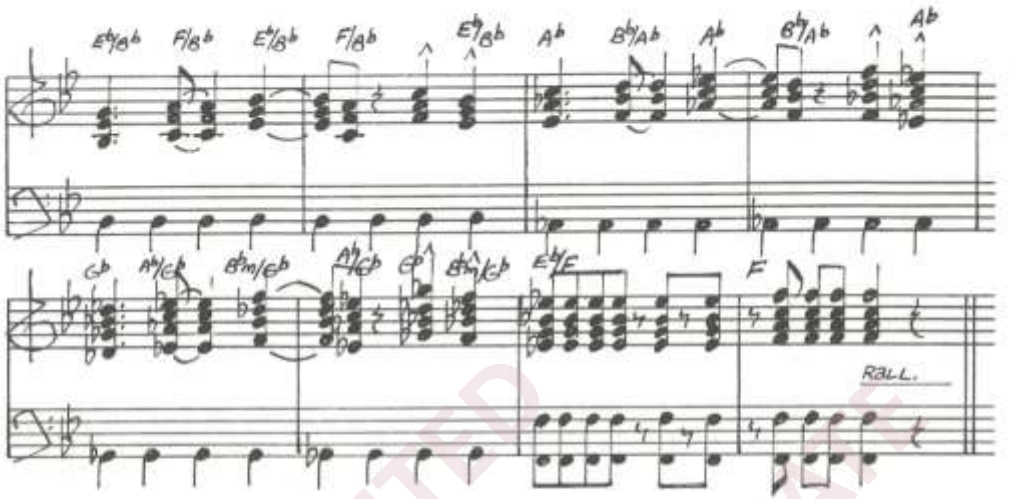
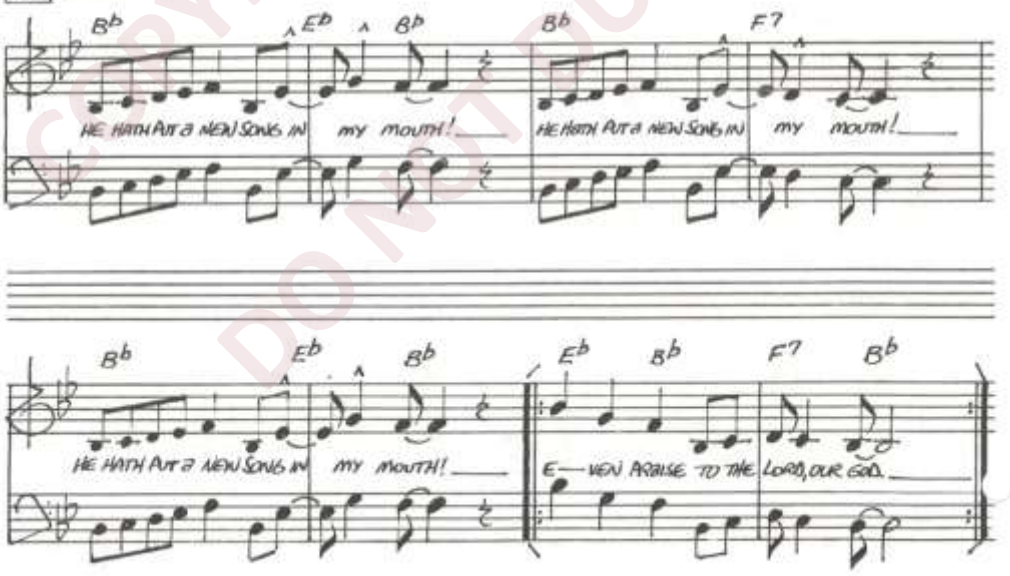
OUR SALVATION!... HE HAS SET OUR FEET ON THE SOLID ROCK WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST! HALLELUJAH!... (WILD "CHATTER")... SING OUT CHURCH!... HERE WE GO!...



"He Hath Put a New Song in my Mouth"

Words & Music by WARREN HASTINGS



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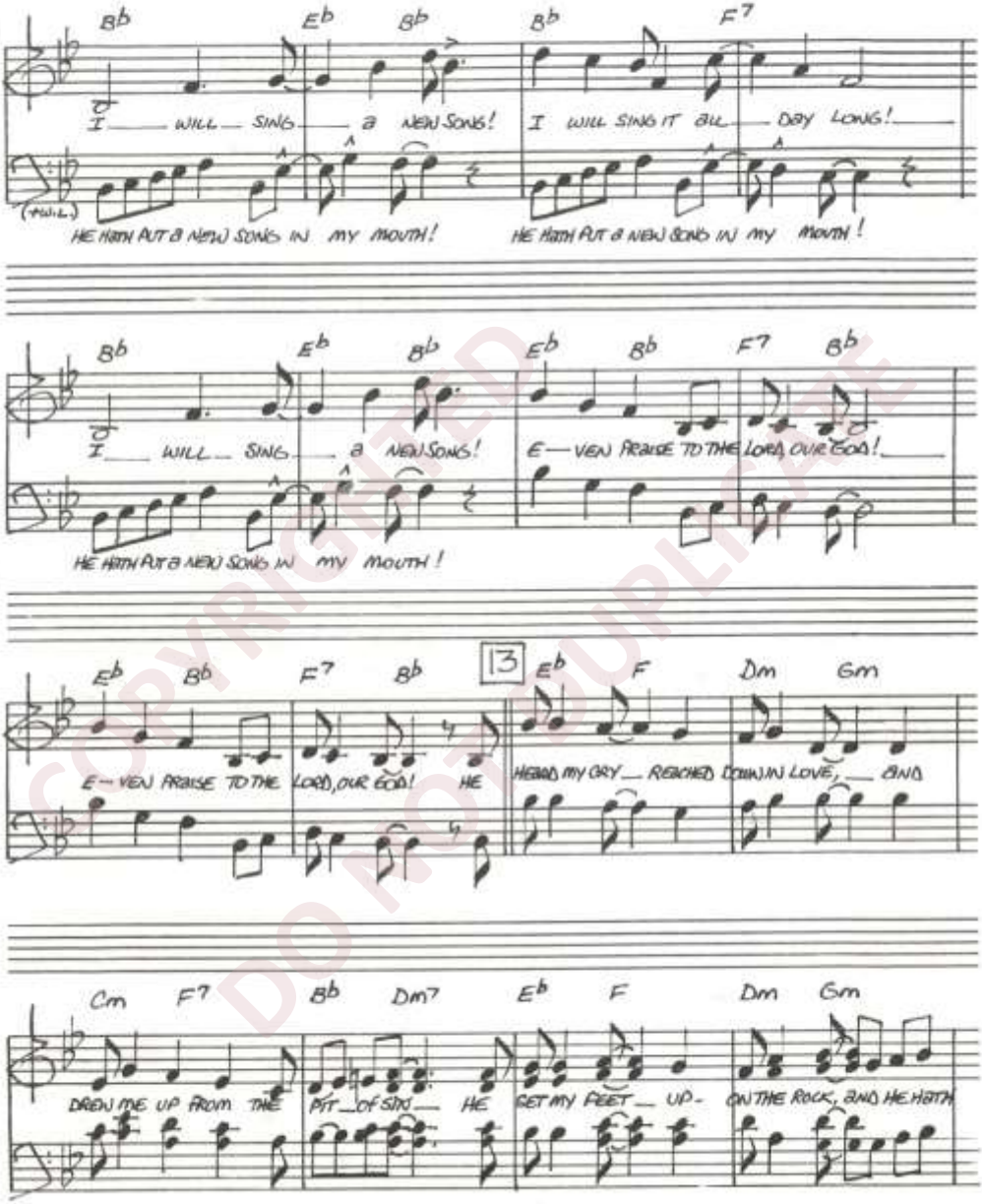

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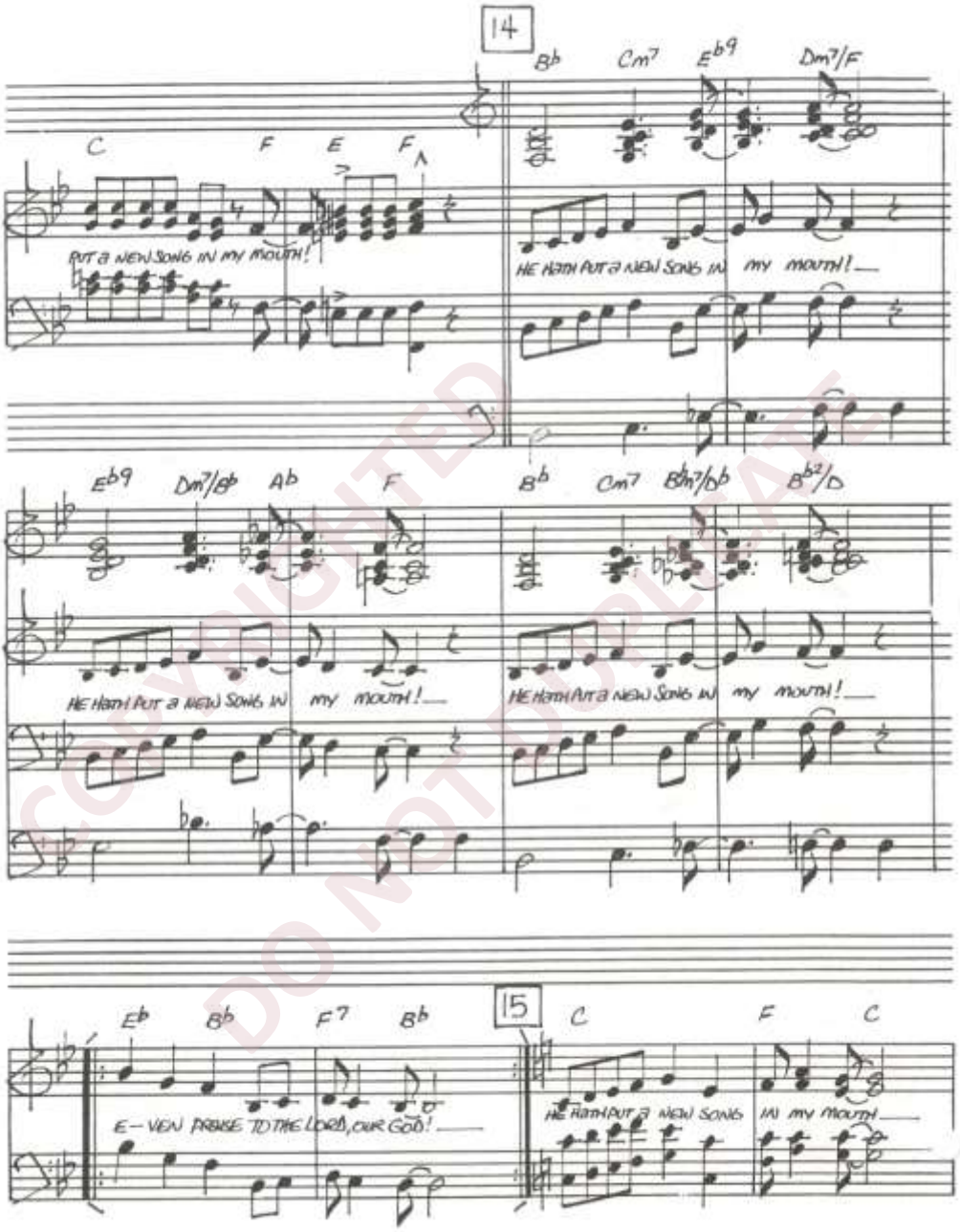

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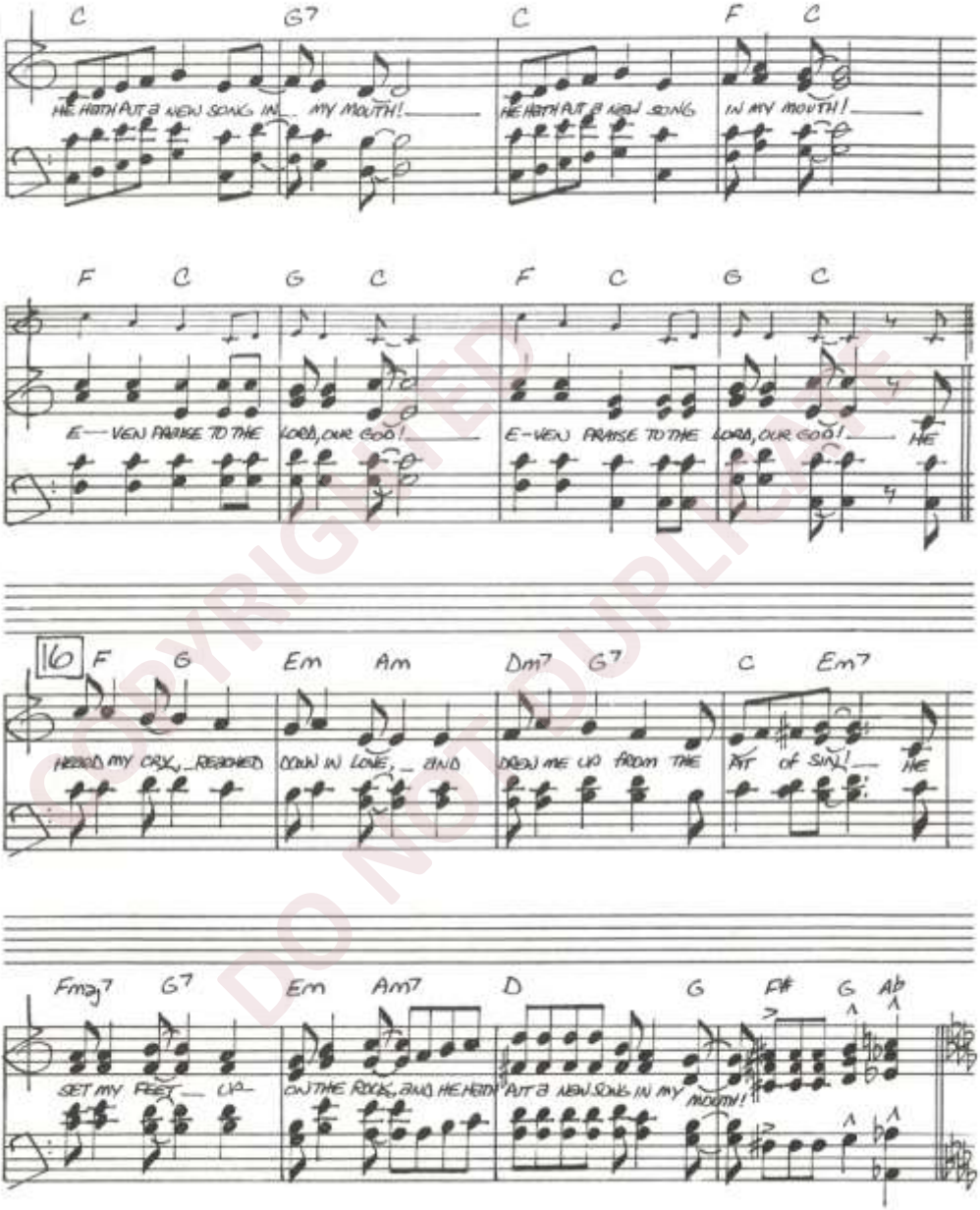

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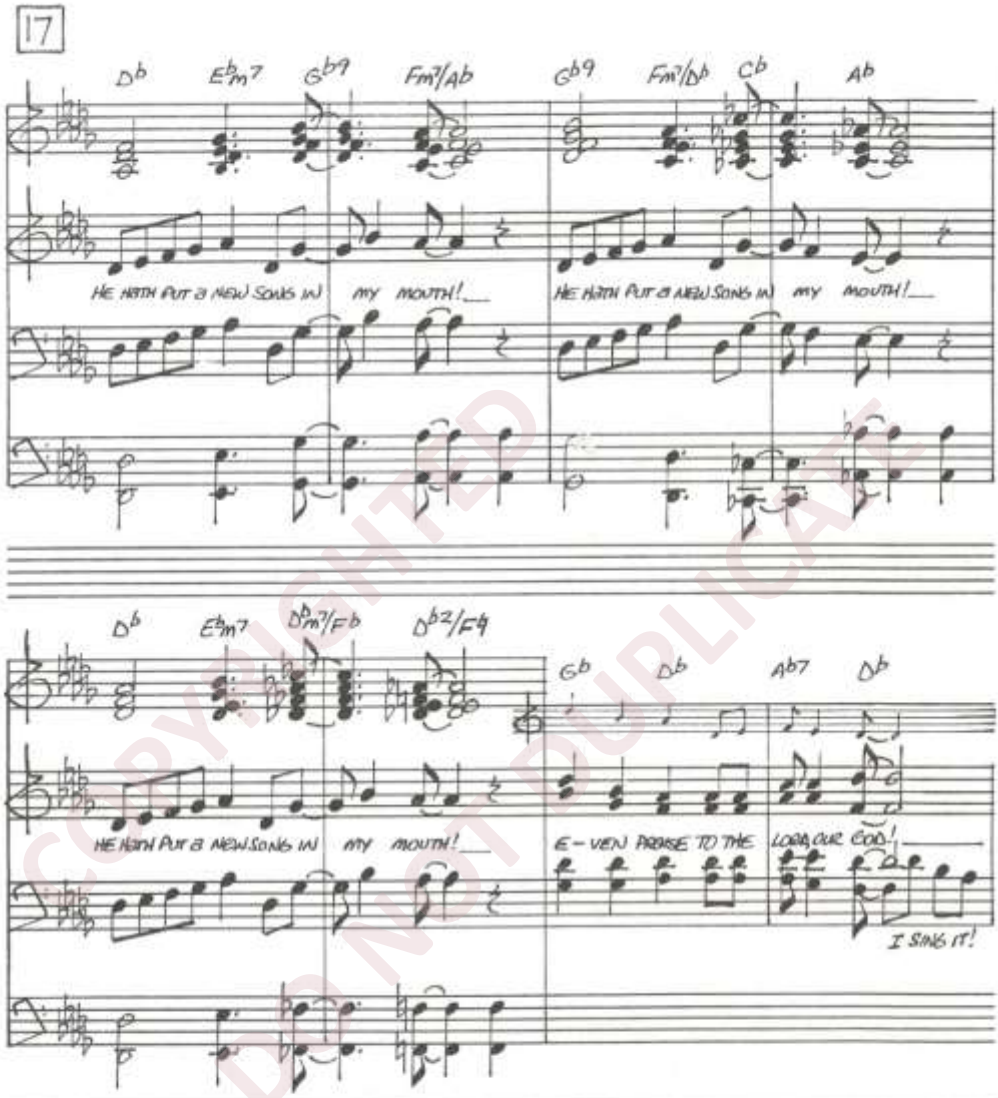

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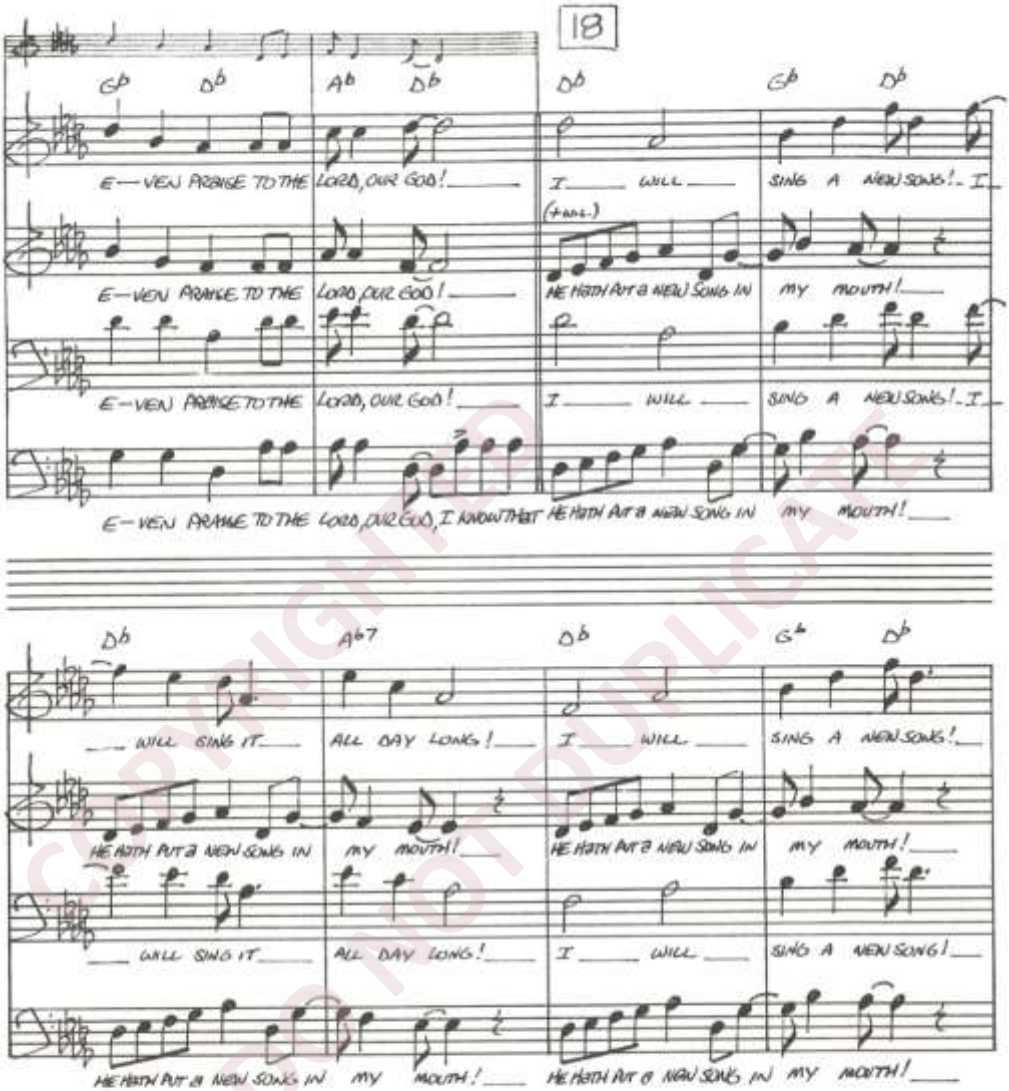

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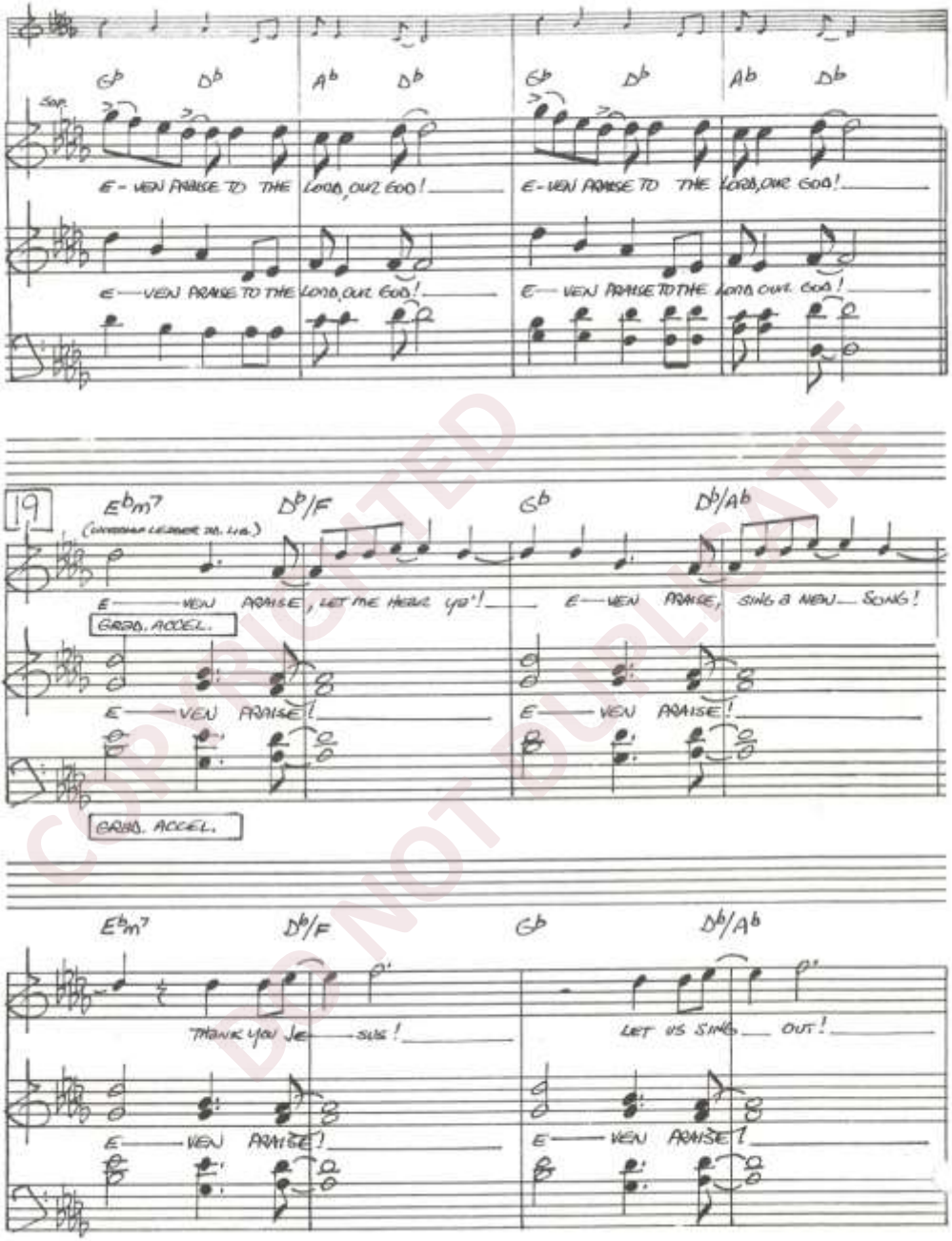

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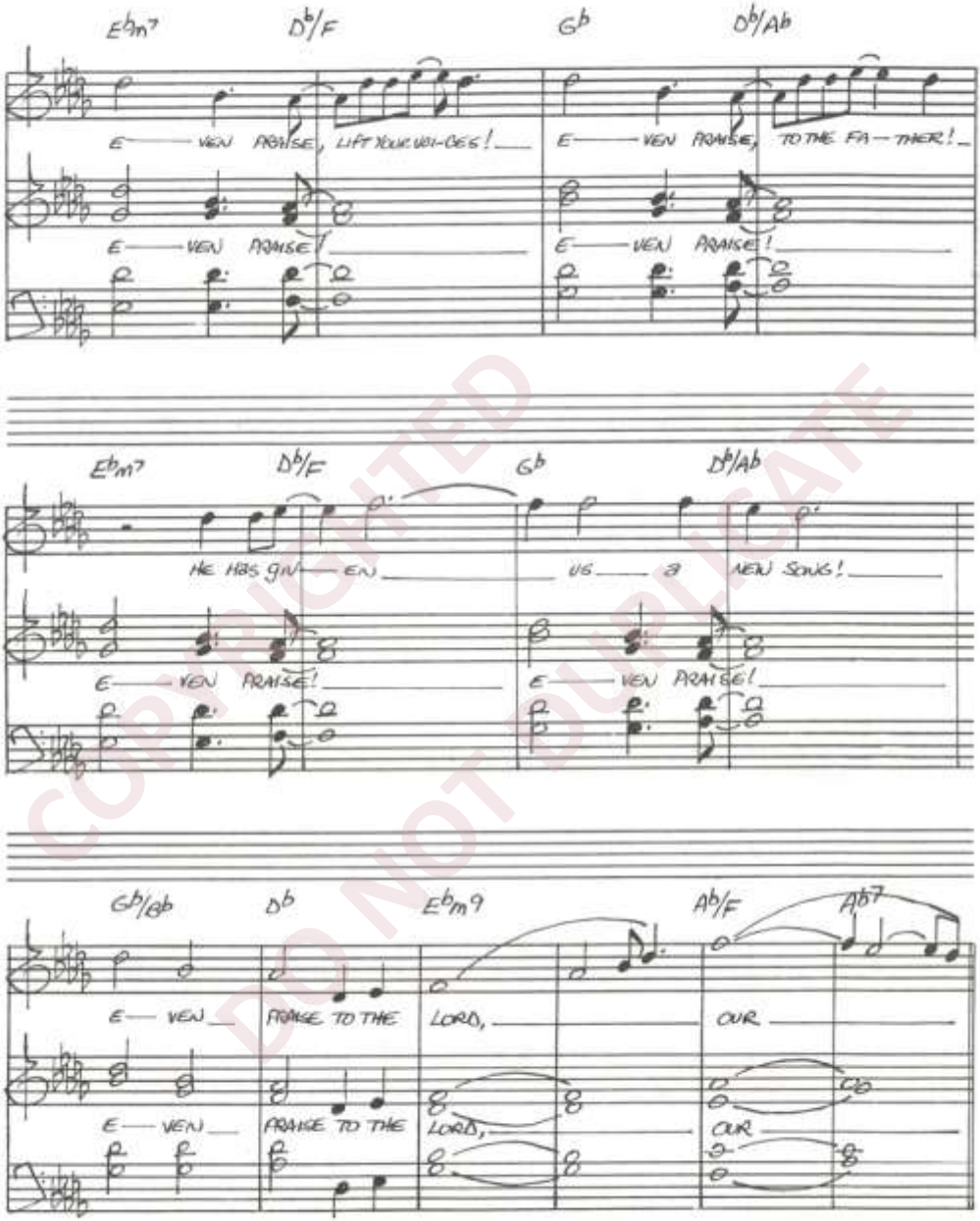

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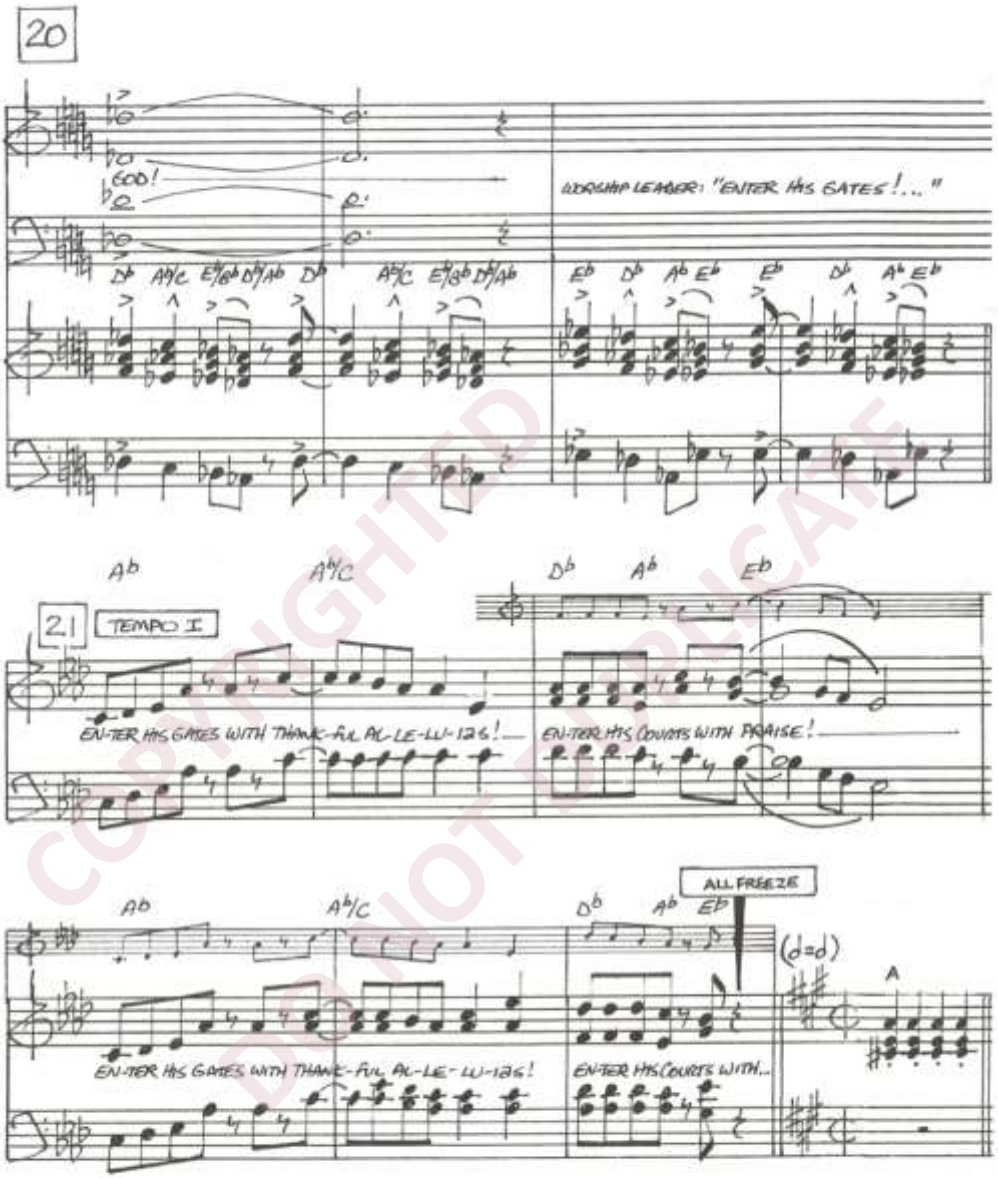

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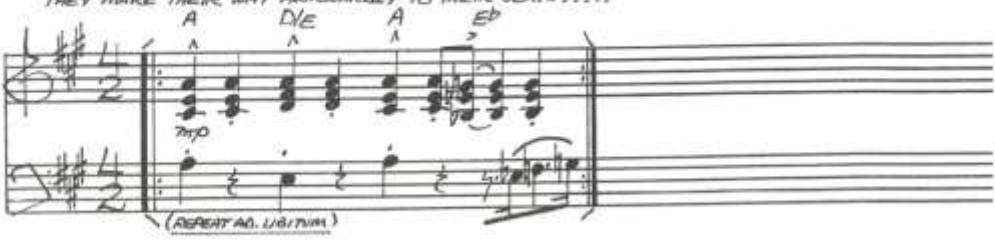
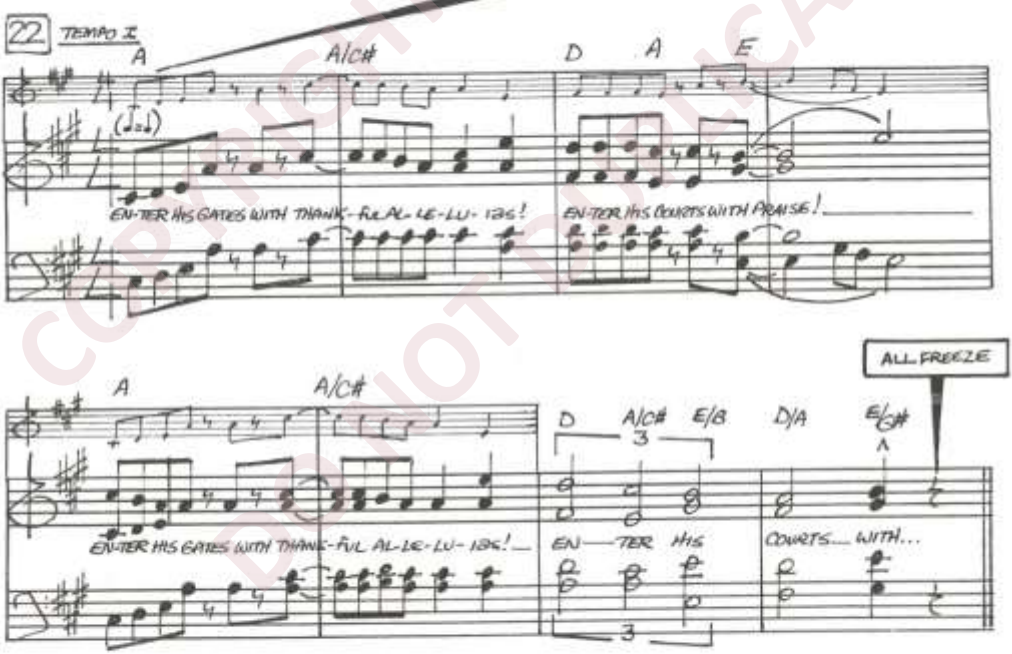
ALL PARTICIPANTS ON PLATFORM FREEZE IN PLACE, INTERRUPTED IN AUDIENCE BY A FAMILY (MAN, WOMAN, 2 KIDS) ENTERING SANCTUARY, LED BY HUSBAND THROUGH PEOPLE, STEPPING OVER FEET, ETC. THEY ARE LATE AND OBVIOUSLY FRUSTRATED AS THEY MAKE THEIR WAY AWKWARDLY TO THEIR SEATS.....



HUSBAND: "EXCUSE ME.... (AD LIB) I'M SORRY... COULD WE GET THROUGH HERE?... EXCUSE ME?... I'M SORRY... I DIDN'T MEAN TO STEP ON YOU..."

WIFE: "I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE LATE! THIS IS SO EMBARRASSING! WHEN WILL HE EVER LEARN THAT WHEN THE ALARM GOES OFF YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO GET OUT OF BED! OH, I DON'T BELIEVE THIS! WE DIDN'T EVEN GET A FRONT ROW SEAT!"

IMMEDIATE ACTION ON PLATFORM



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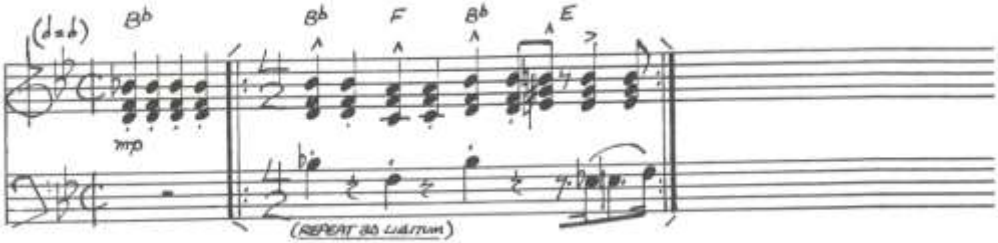
ALL PARTICIPANTS ON PLATFORM FREEZE IN PLACE. FAMILY IN PLACE, STANDING BY SEATS....



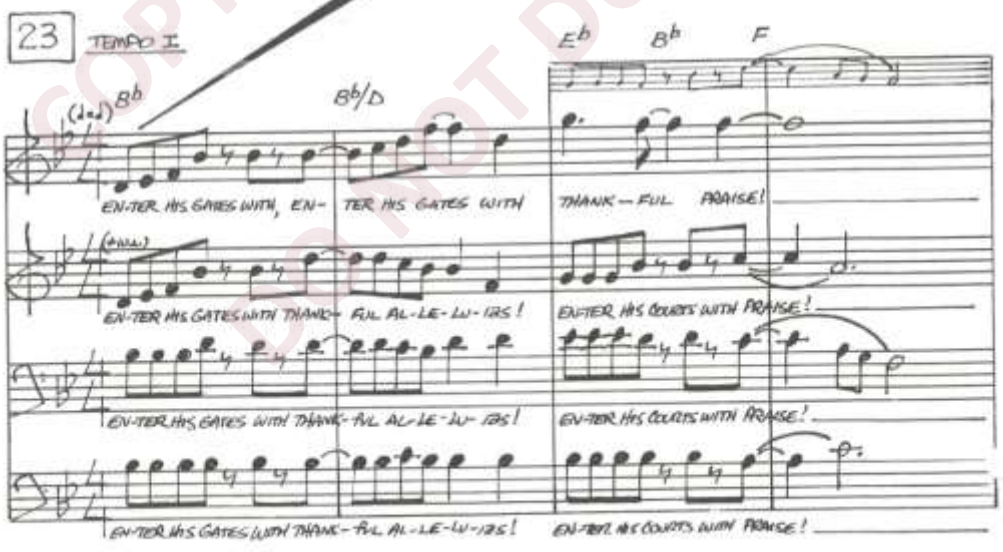
HUSBAND: "YOU KNOW WE WOULD HAVE BEEN ON TIME IF SHE HADN'T TAKEN ALL DAY IN THE BATHROOM! SO NOW SHE HAS PERFECT HAIR AND WE MISS HALF THE SERVICE. I'M SO GLAD WE DON'T HAVE TO SIT SO CLOSE!"

KID #1: (HITS KID #2 WITH ELBOW AND ROLLS EYES) "THERE THEY GO AGAIN!"

KID #2: "WE GET IN TROUBLE IF WE ACT LIKE THAT! SOMETIMES I WISH SOMEONE WOULD SPANK THEM OR PUT THEM ON RESTRICTION!"

KID #1: "YEAH! BROTHER, PARENTS ARE GREAT EXAMPLES!"
(PARENTS GIVE KIDS A "LOOK" AND KIDS LOOK AT EACH OTHER)

IMMEDIATE ACTION ON PLATFORM



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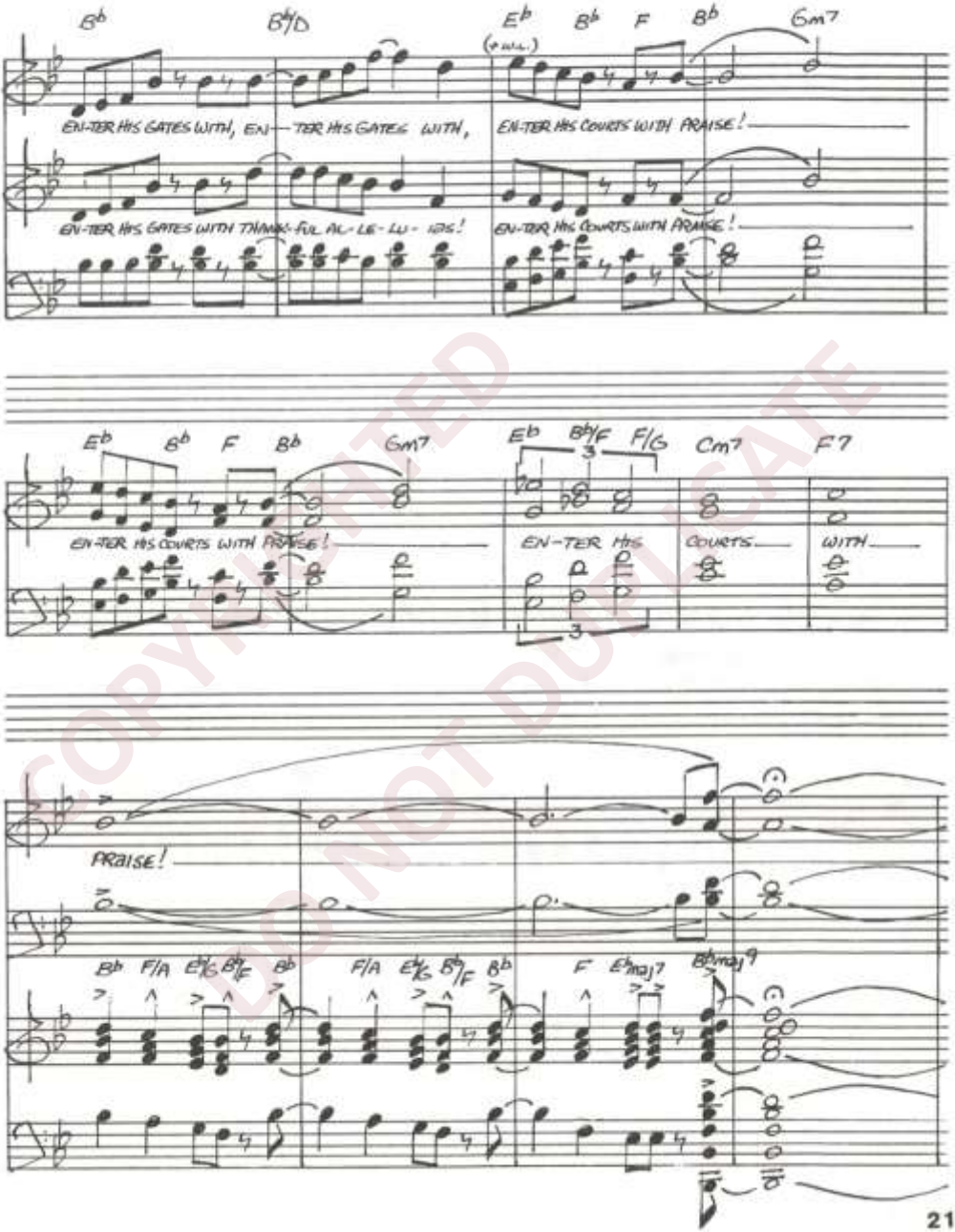

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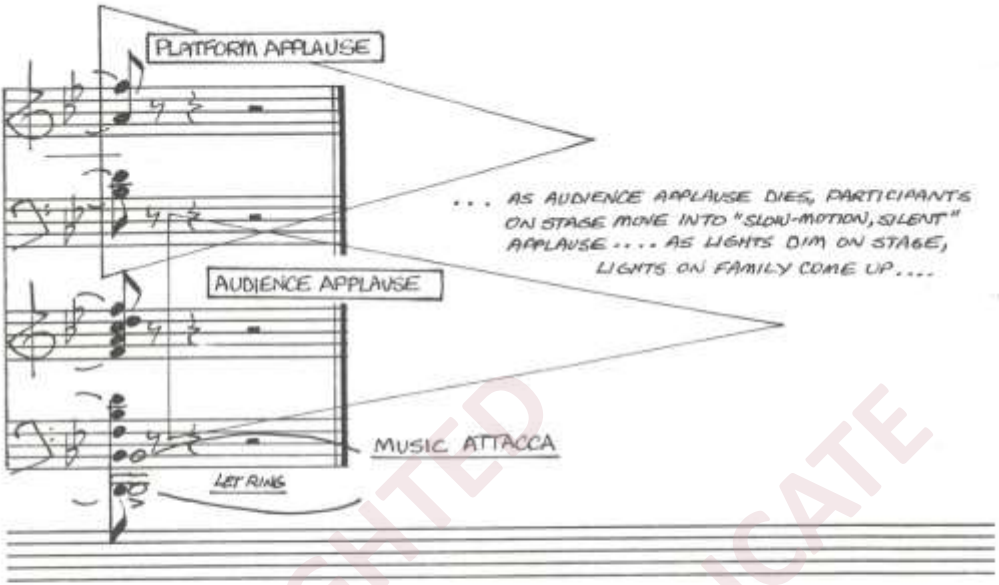
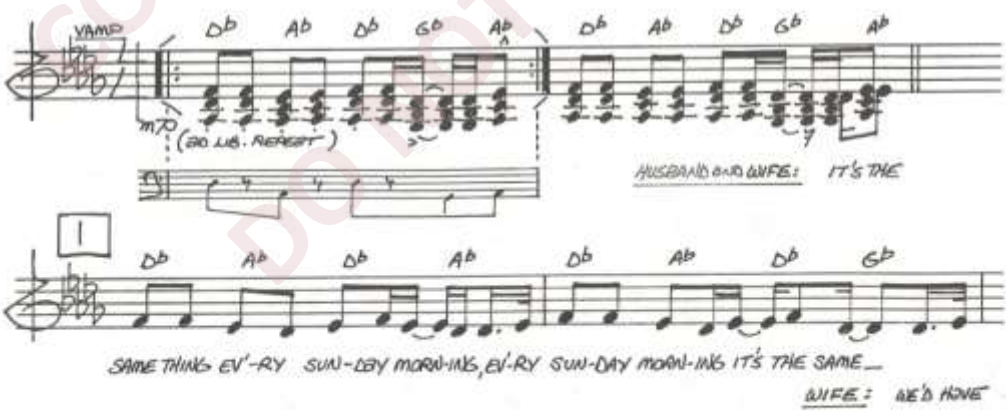


"It's the Same Thing Every Sunday Morning"

Words & Music by ROD SCHUMACHER
Additional material by DAVID HOLSINGER

(ENSEMBLE: HUSBAND, WIFE, KIDS #1 AND #2, WELL-DRESSED WOMAN, YOUNG MAN)



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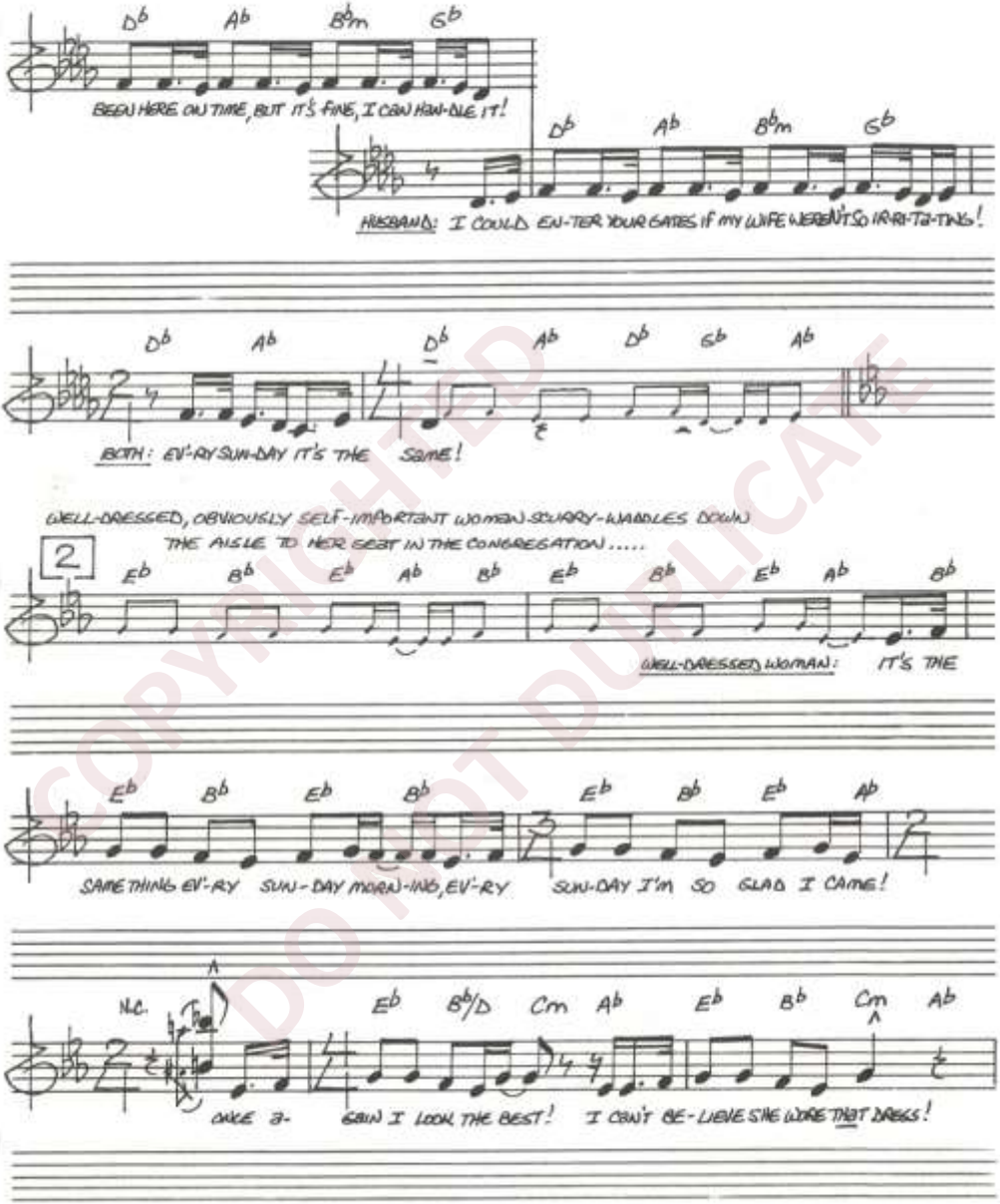

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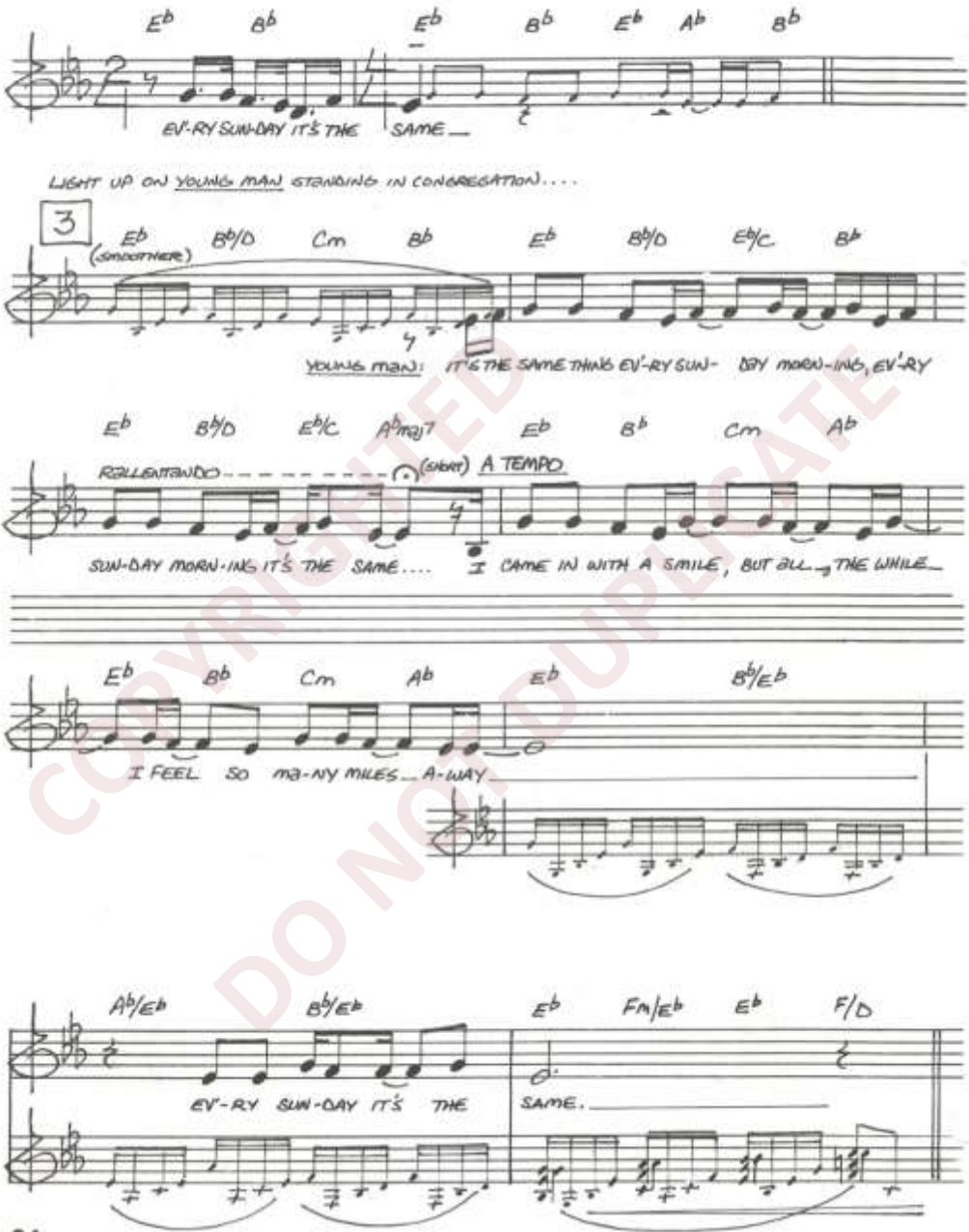

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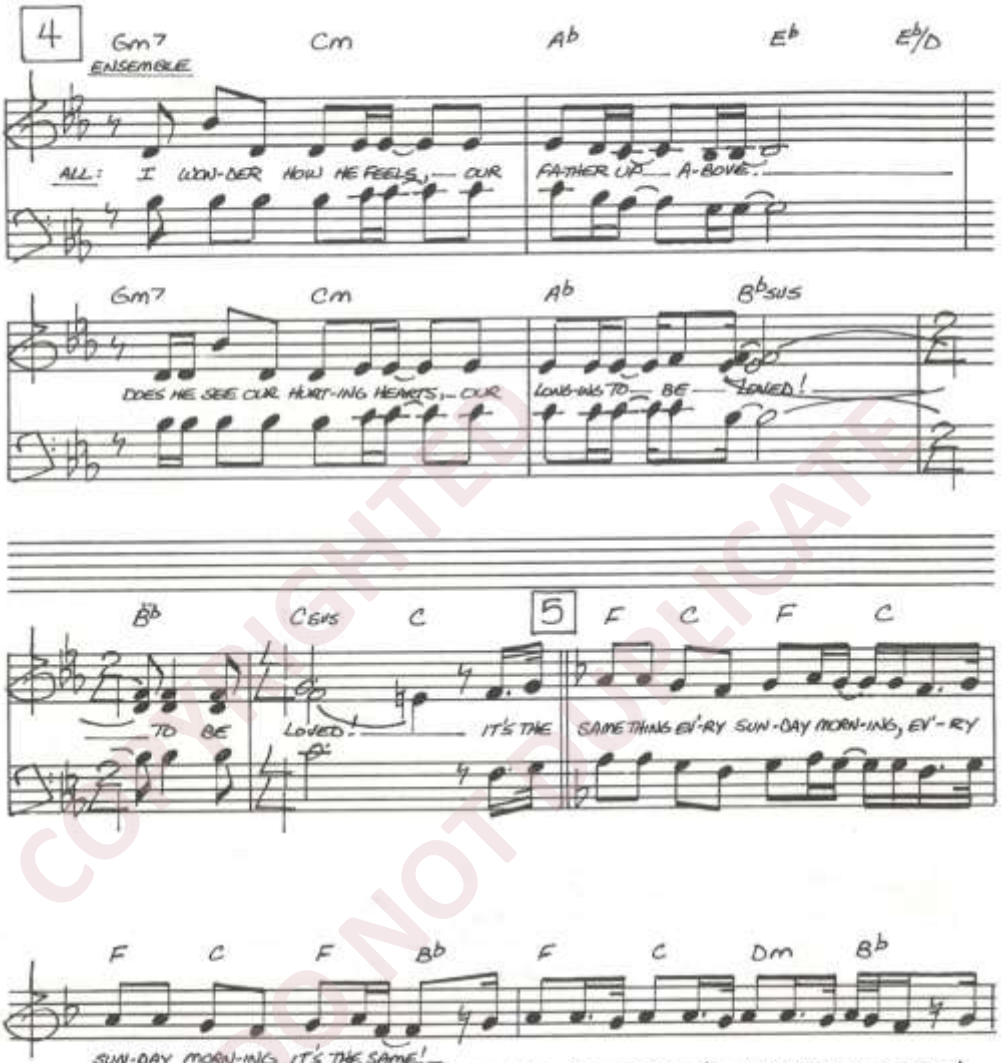

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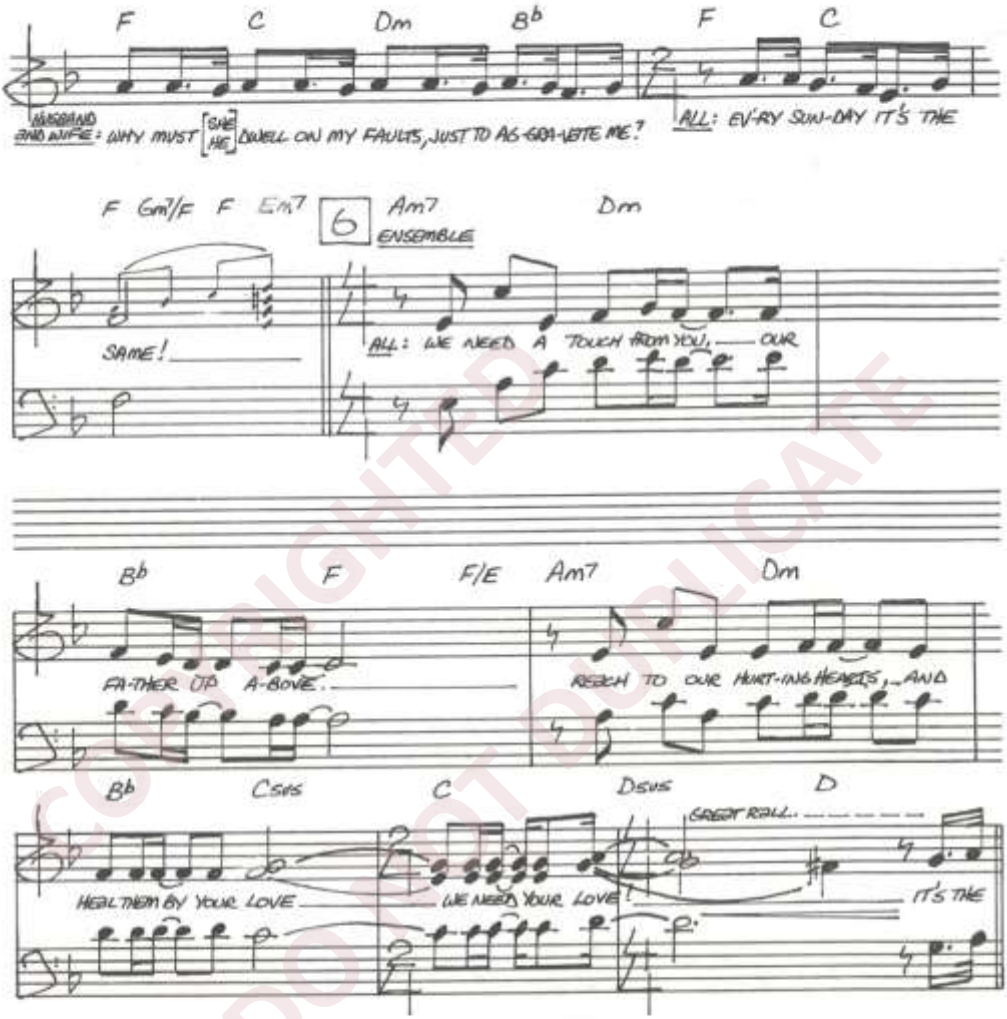

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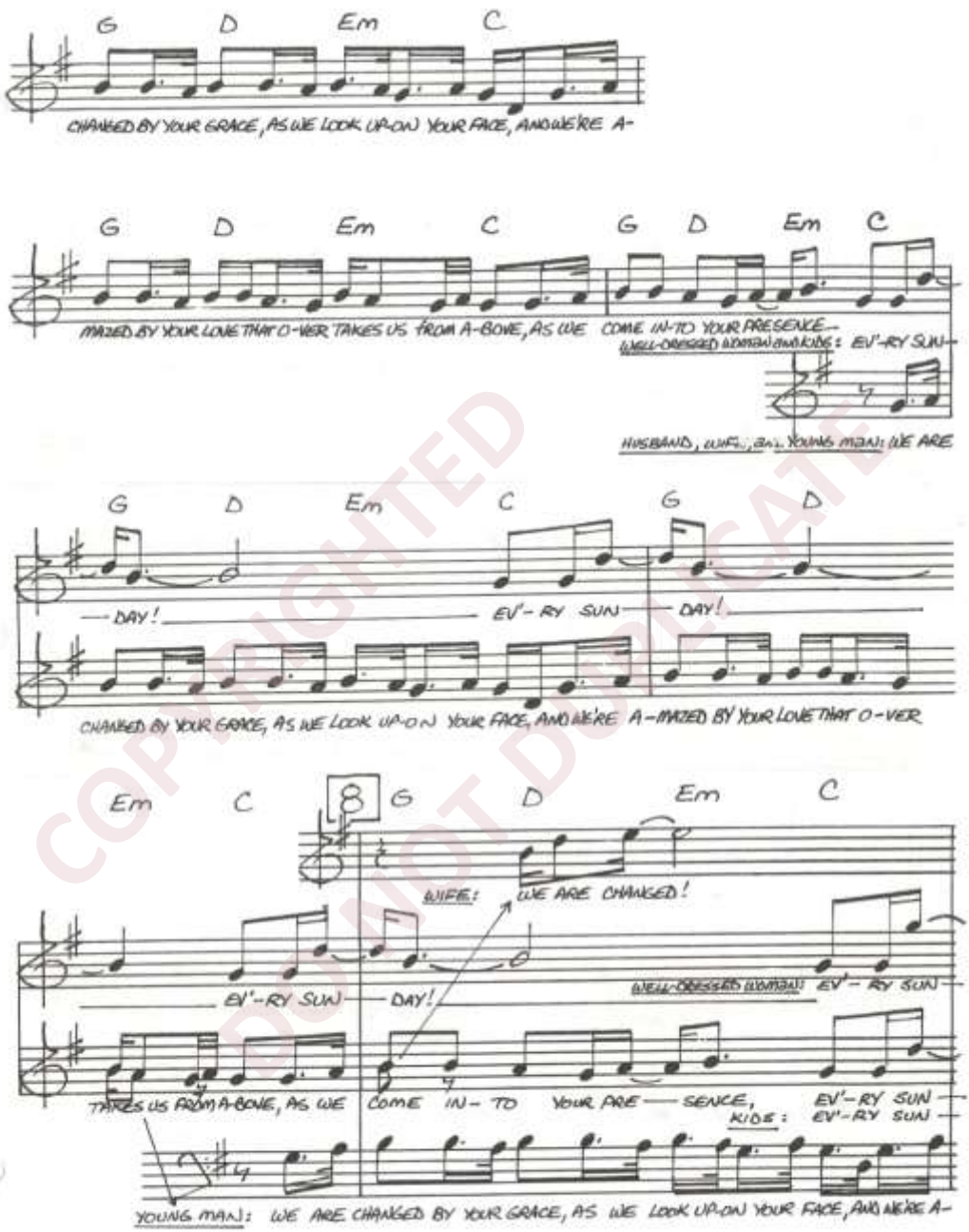

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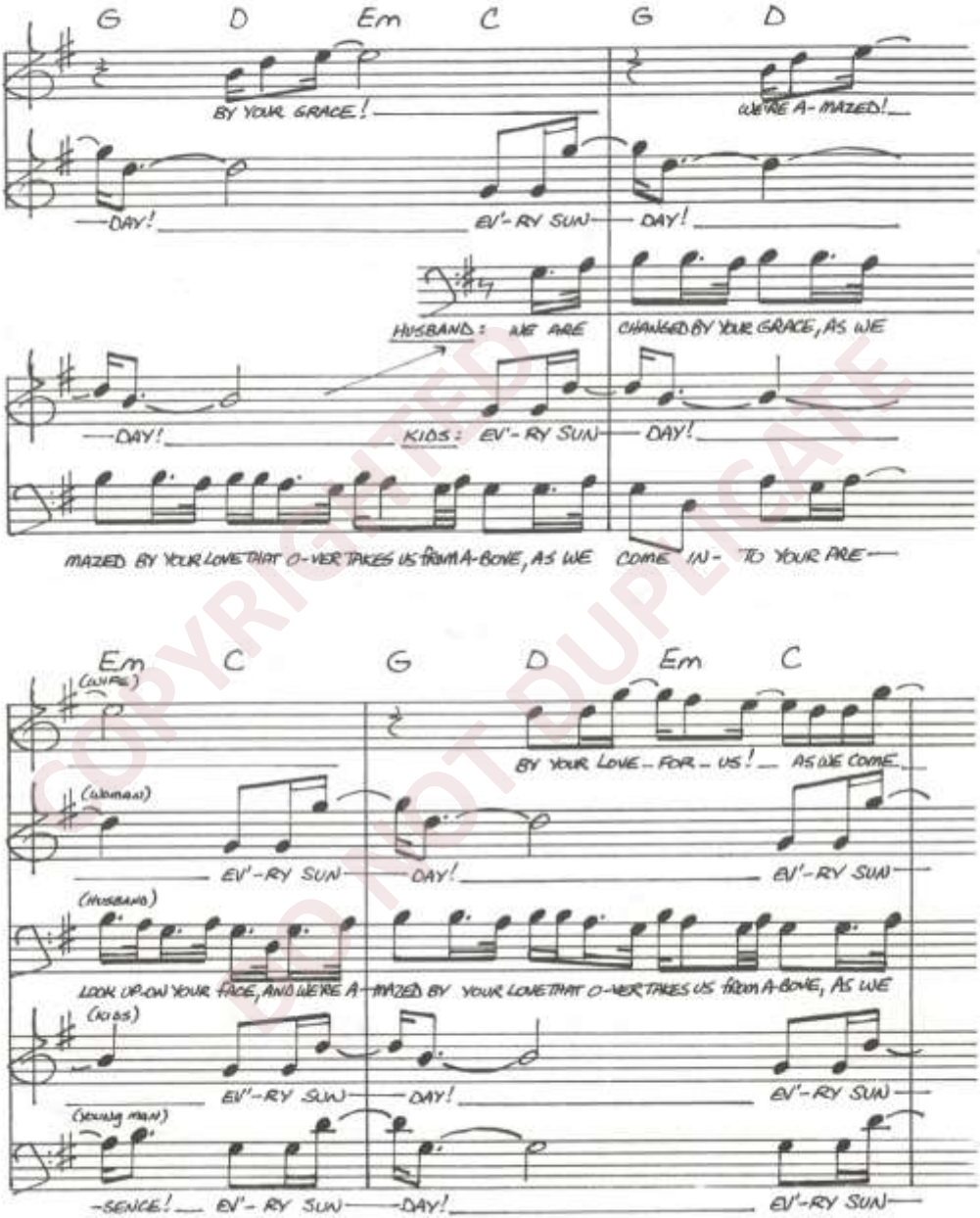

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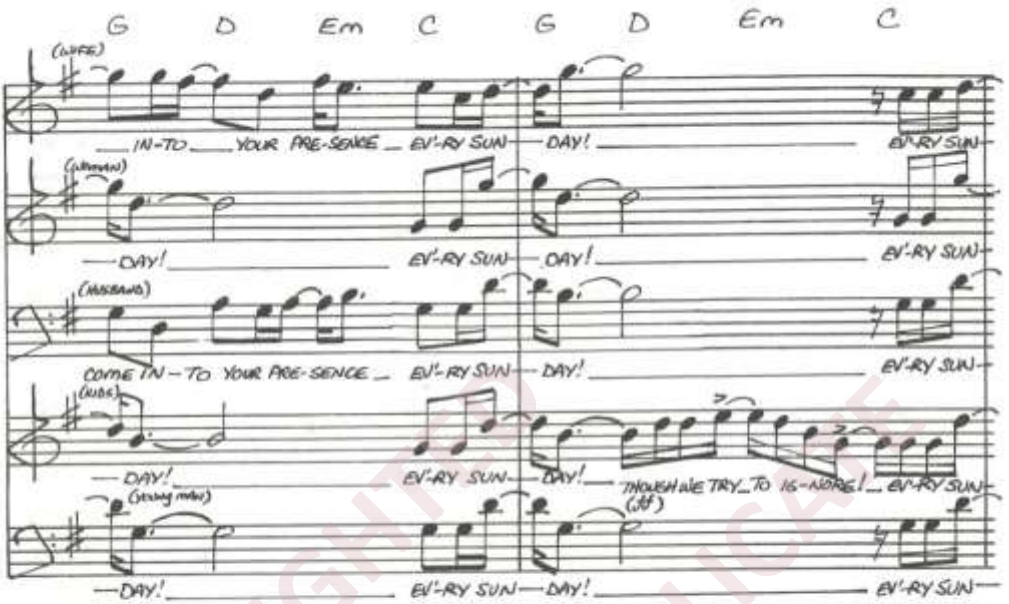

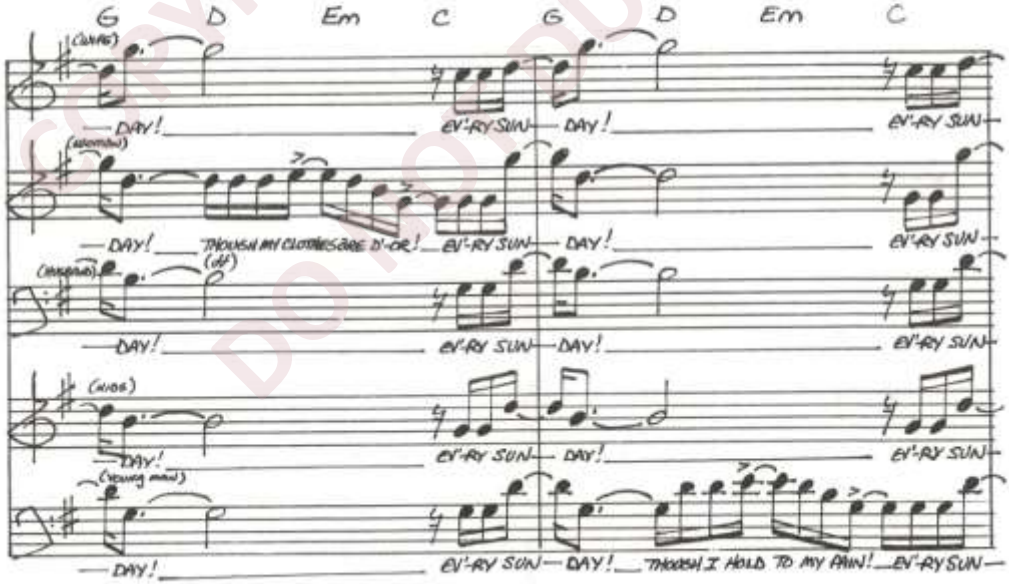

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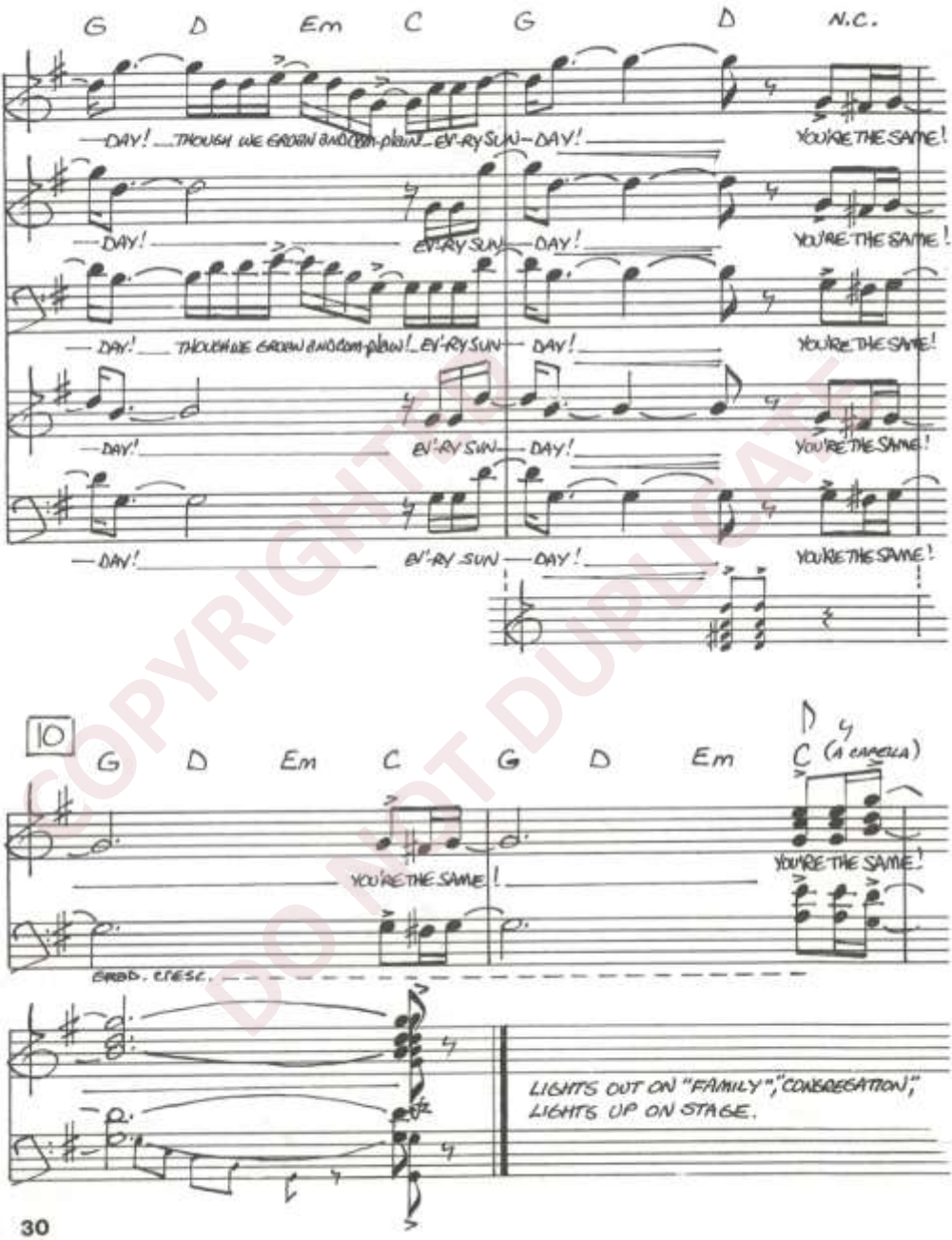

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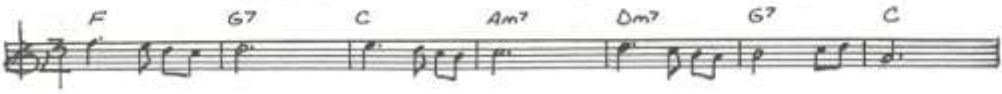
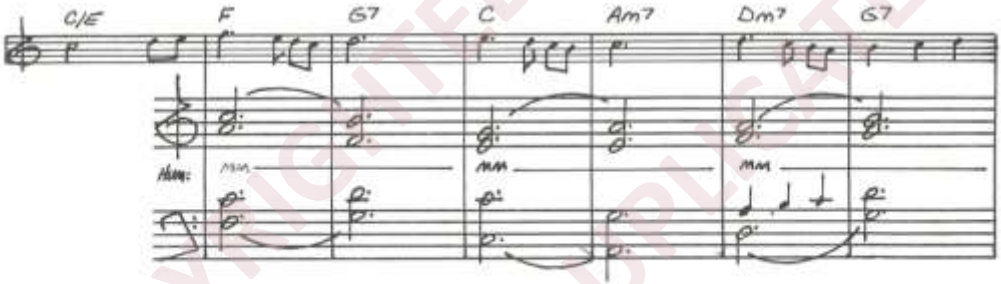
"We are a Family"

Words & Music by DAVID HOLSINGER

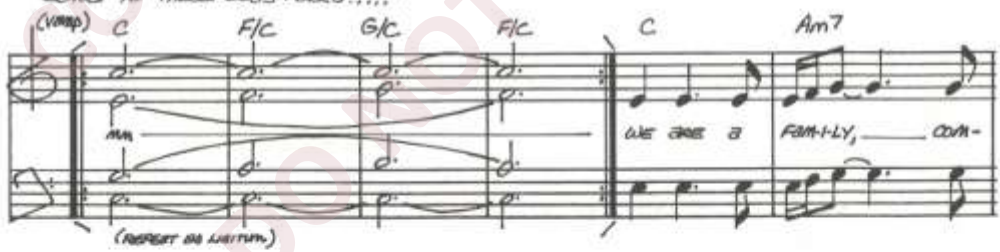
WORSHIP LEADER "PATTER": (AS IF JUST COMPLETING THE SINGING OF "ENTER HIS GATES")
"... WELL, AMEN! ... PRAISE GOD! ... IT IS GOOD TO ENTER HIS GATES WITH JOYFUL AND THANKFUL ALLELUIAS! .. AMEN! ... VISITORS, WE'RE REAL HAPPY THAT YOU HAVE COME TO WORSHIP WITH US TODAY .. CAN I HEAR AN AMEN FROM



THE CHOIR!?! ... (AMEN! ETC!) ... IF YOU'RE A VISITOR, WON'T YOU JUST HOLD UP YOUR HAND ... HALLELUJAH ... WELL, THERE YOU GO ... WELCOME SISTER ... AND A COUPLE IN THE BACK ... MY, MY, THERE'S VISITORS ALL OVER ... AMEN! PRAISE GOD! ...



... WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY HERE AT HOMETOWN CHURCH ... WE SURE HOPE YOU'LL COME BACK ... AMEN! ... CHURCH, LET'S SING A FAMILY SONG TO THESE GOOD FOLKS! ..."



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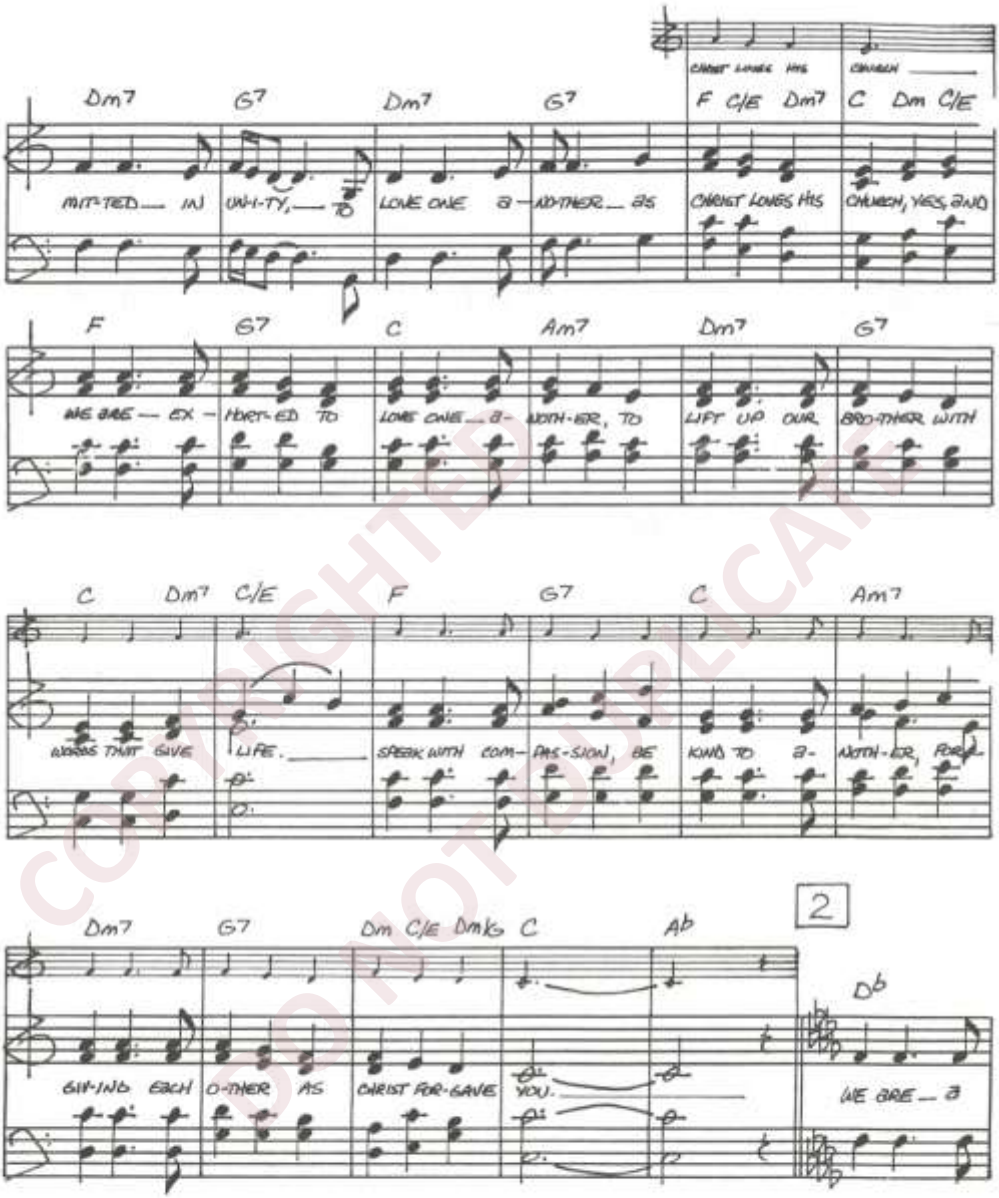

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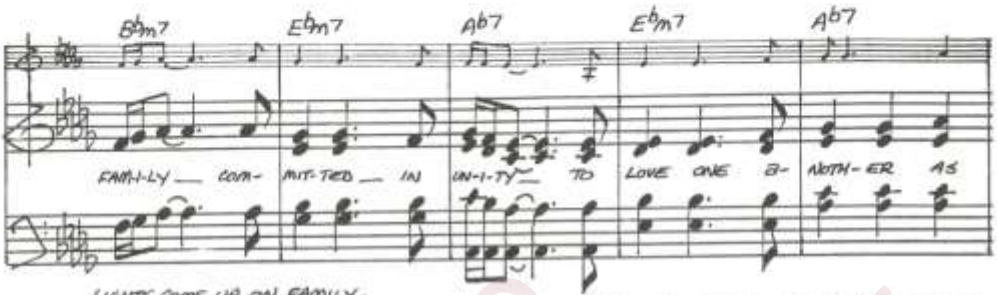
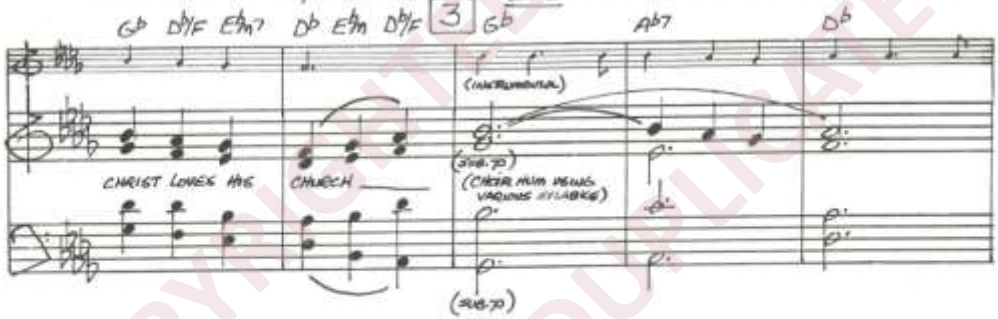


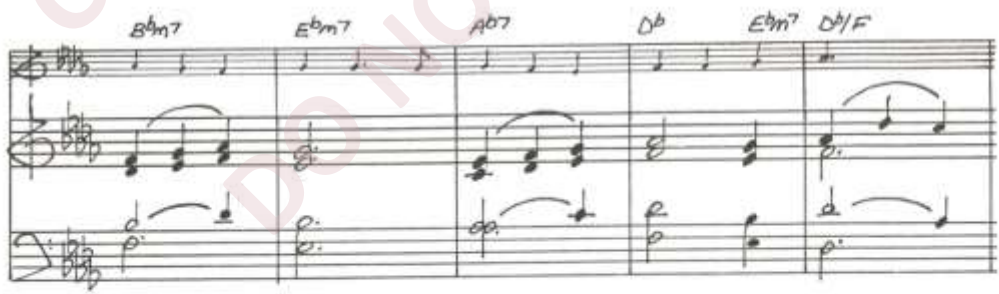
LIGHTS COME UP ON FAMILY;
WIFE IS VERY FIDGETY, COMPLAINING:

WIFE: "WE'RE SO FAR BACK I CAN'T EVEN SEE



WHAT THE PASTOR IS DOING!"

HUSBAND: "WHAT DOES IT MATTER WHAT THE PASTOR IS DOING DURING WORSHIP?..."



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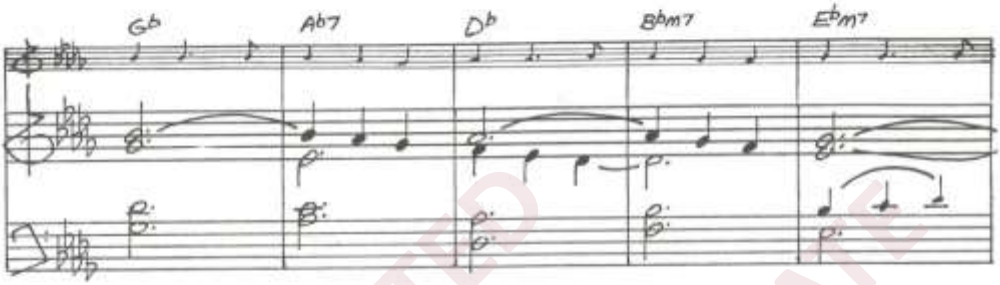
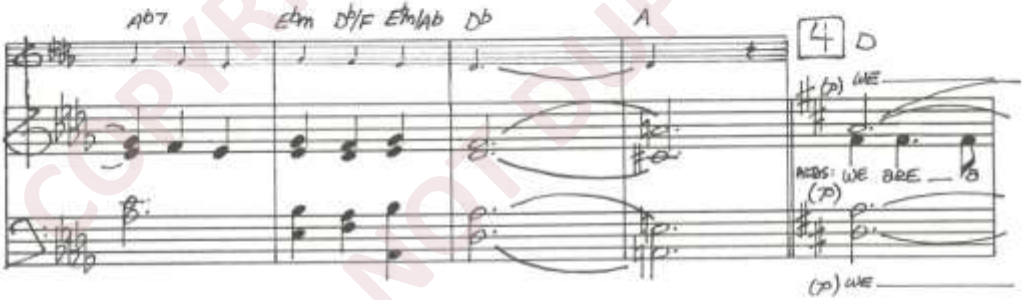
WIFE: "WELL... WELL... IT'S JUST WE ALWAYS SIT UP FRONT! EVERYONE KNOWS THOSE ARE OUR SEATS! MY GOODNESS, PEOPLE WILL THINK WE'RE BACKSLIDDEN! I CAN HEAR NOW "LOOK AT THAT, THE CAMPBELLS ARE PRACTICALLY ON THE BACK ROW! THEY'RE PROBABLY HAVING MARITAL PROBLEMS!"... DO YOU WANT PEOPLE TO THINK THERE'S



SOMETHING WRONG WITH OUR MARRIAGE?..."

HUSBAND: "THEY WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST ONES, I'm SURE!..."

WIFE: "AND JUST WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?..."



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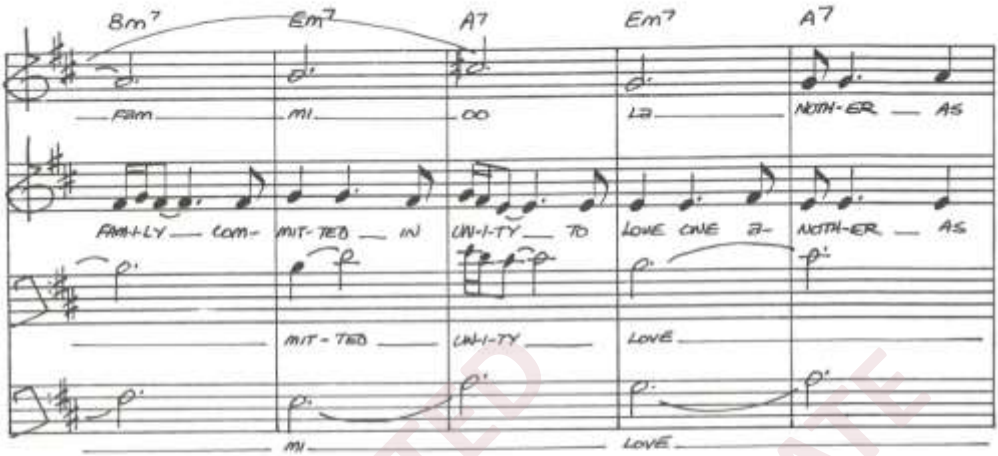
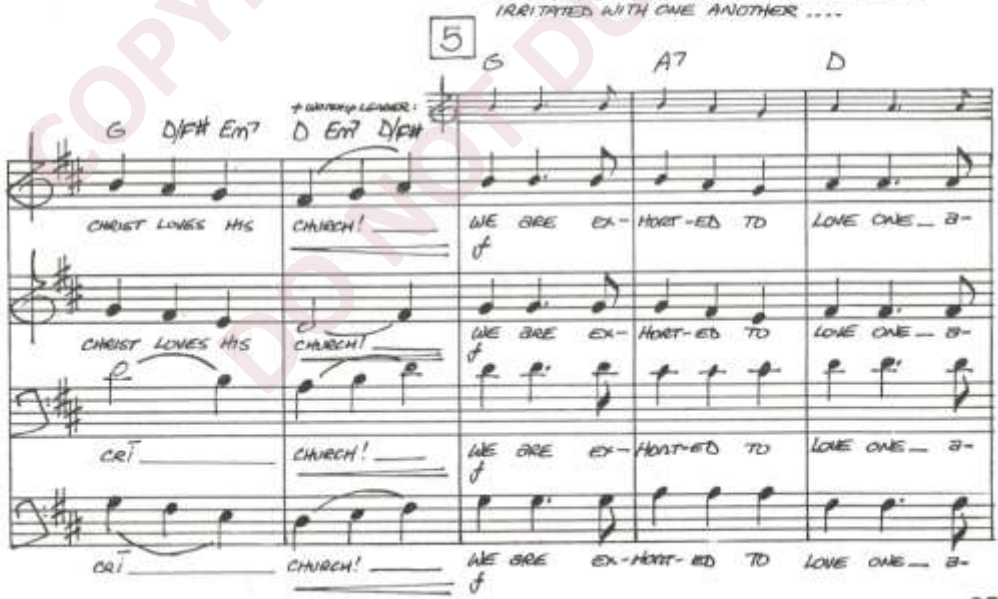
HUSBAND: "NOTHING, DEAR.... LET'S JUST SING?..."



WIFE: "THERE YOU GO AGAIN, CHANGING THE SUBJECT! I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE THAT YOU...."

HUSBAND: "DEAR! SING!..."

(THE KIDS REACT TO DIALOGUE, ADDING SMALL AD LIBS AS APPROPRIATE..)
THE COUPLE BEGINS TO SING, STILL VISIBLY IRRITATED WITH ONE ANOTHER....



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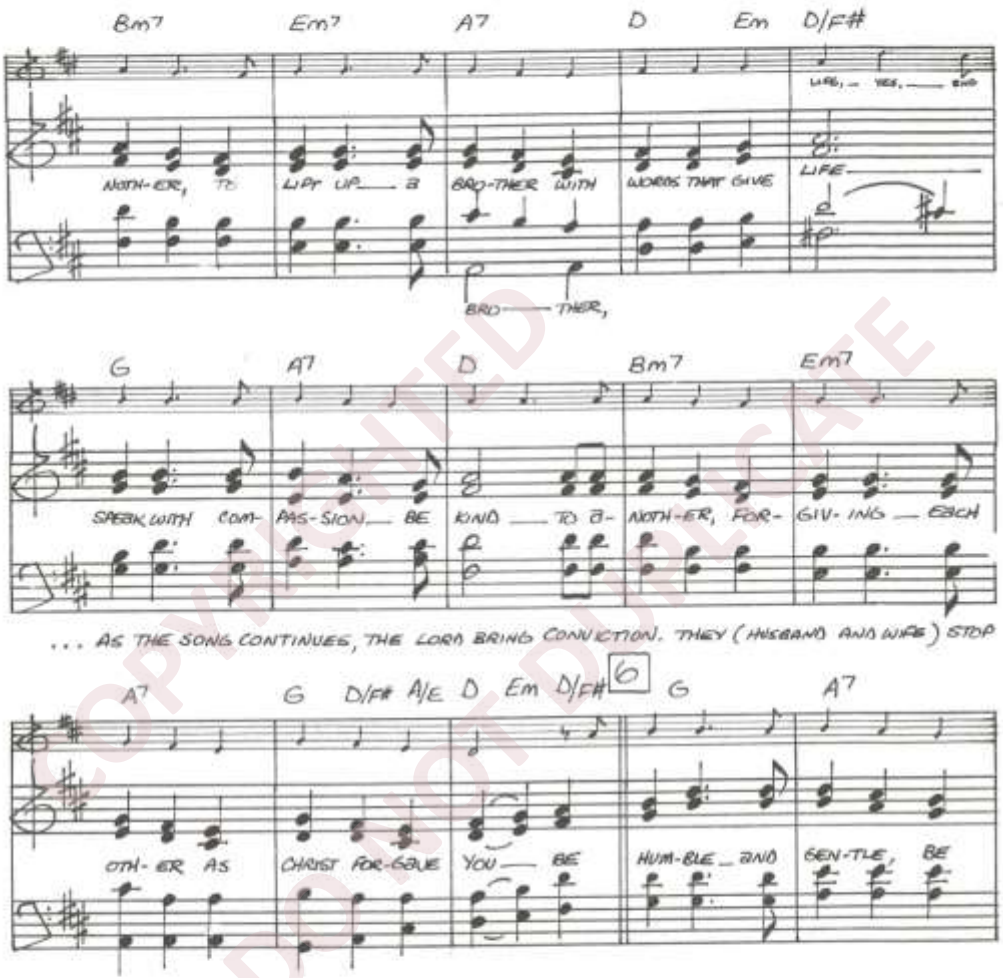

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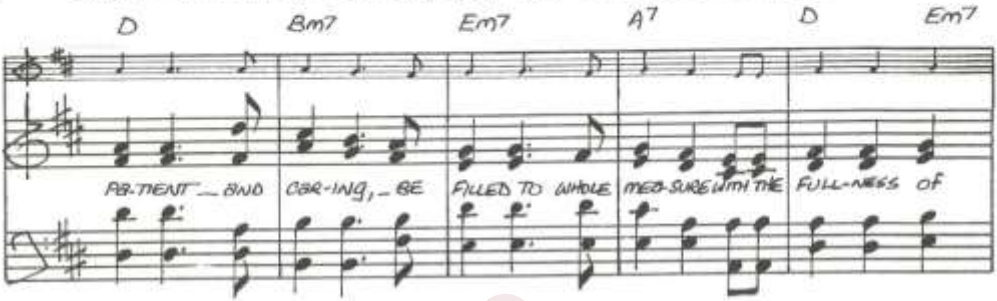
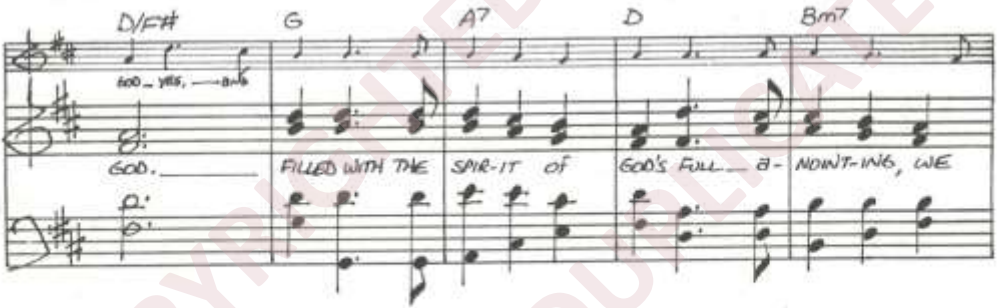
SINGING AND LOOK AT EACH OTHER .... THEY ARE EMBARRASSED, BUT TRULY



SORRY. THEY BEGIN SINGING AGAIN... THIS TIME WITH AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THE SONG SAYS...



HUSBAND: "HONEY, I'm SORRY. I'M NOT BEING VERY SENSITIVE. AND I'm NOT GETTING A

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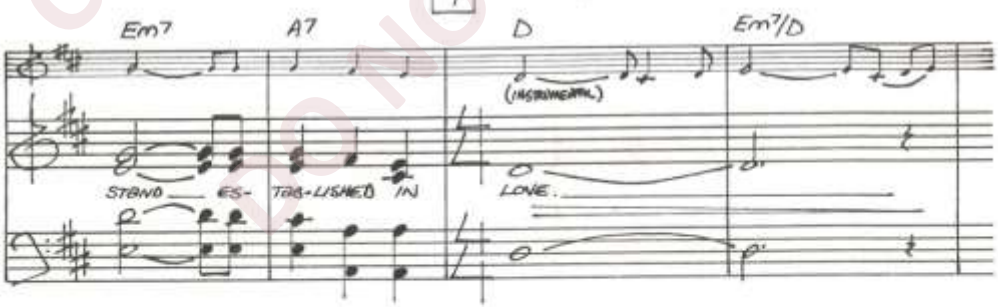

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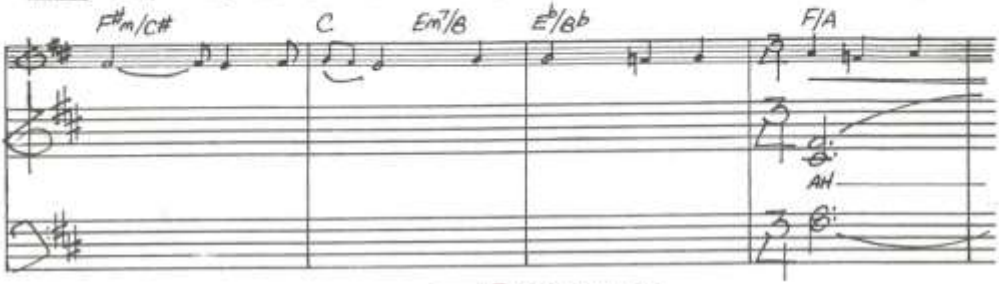
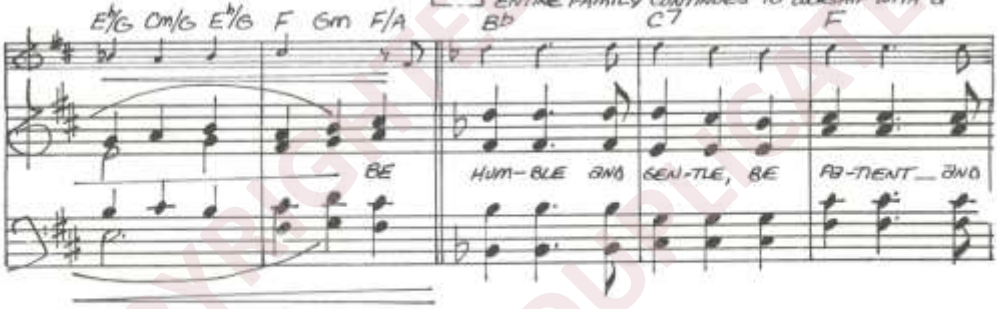
VERY GOOD EXAMPLE EITHER. WILL YOU FORGIVE ME?..."
WIFE: "YES, I FORGIVE YOU AND I'm SORRY I'VE BEEN SO SILLY....

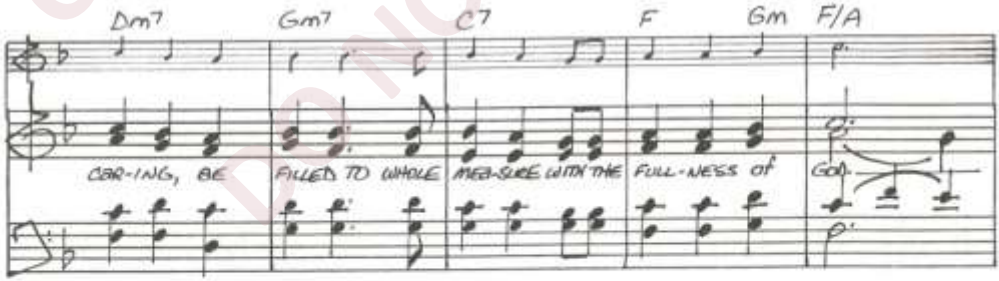


WILL YOU FORGIVE ME?"....

8 MUSIC BROADENS. THEY EMBRACE AND THEN HUG THE KIDS. THE ENTIRE FAMILY CONTINUES TO WORSHIP WITH A



VERY CHANGED HEART AND ATTITUDE....



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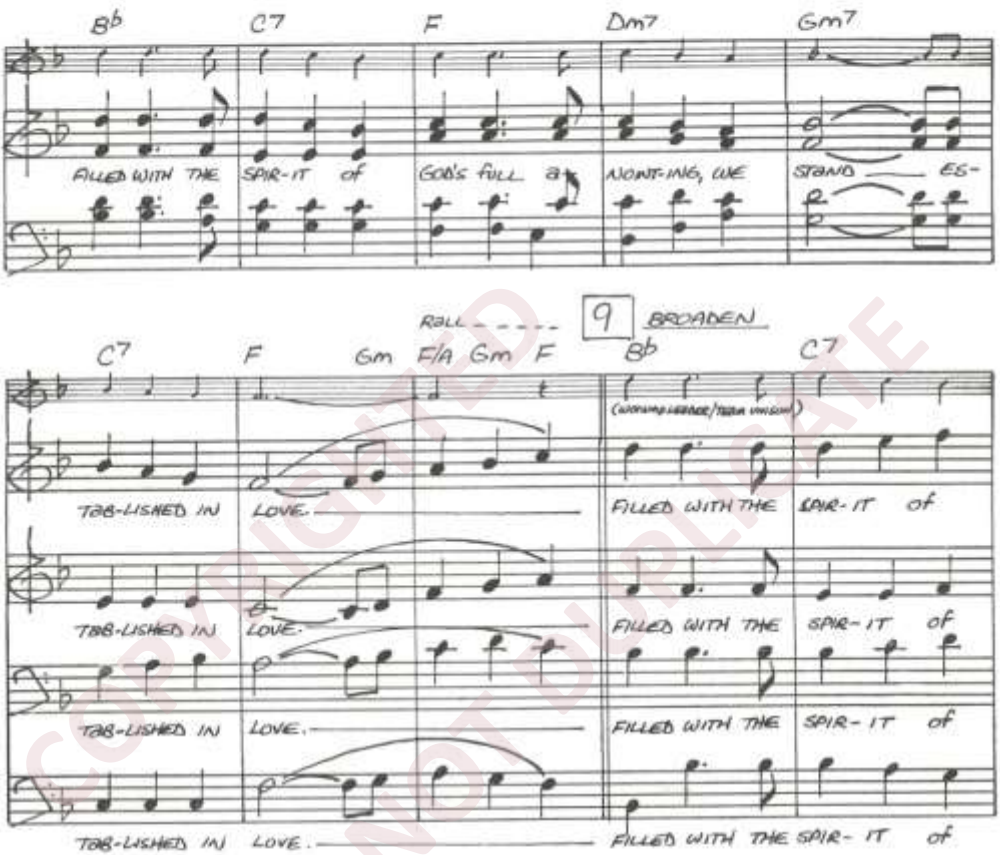

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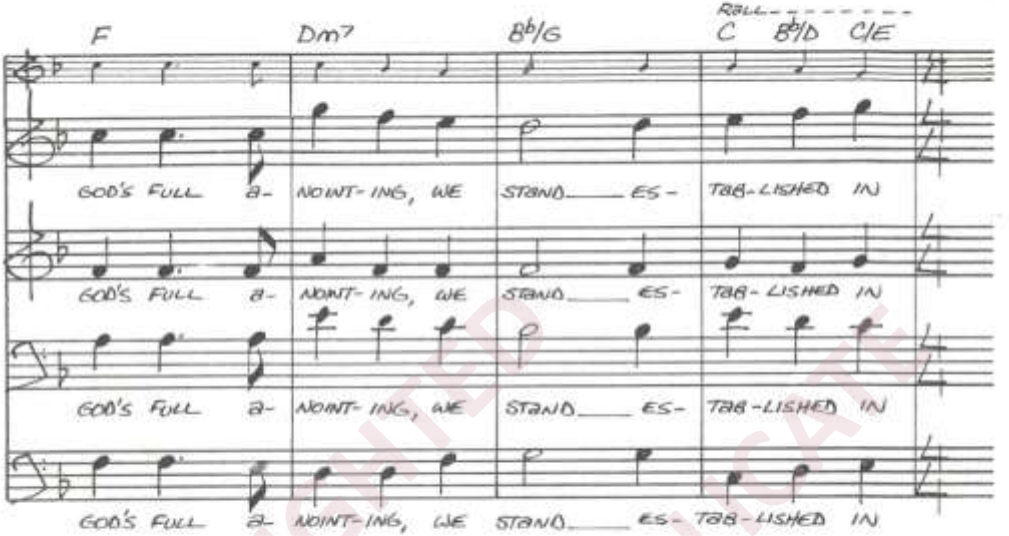

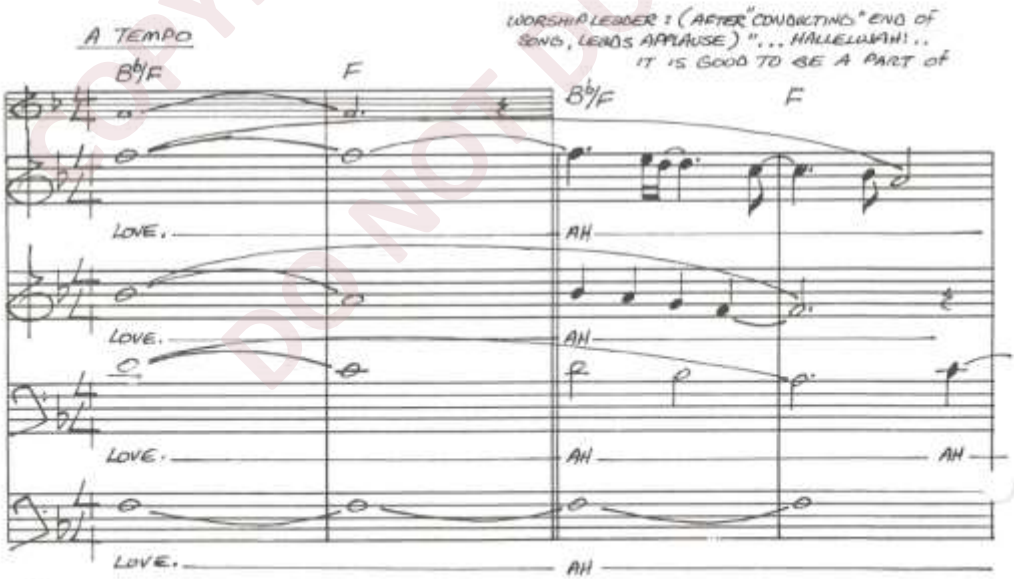

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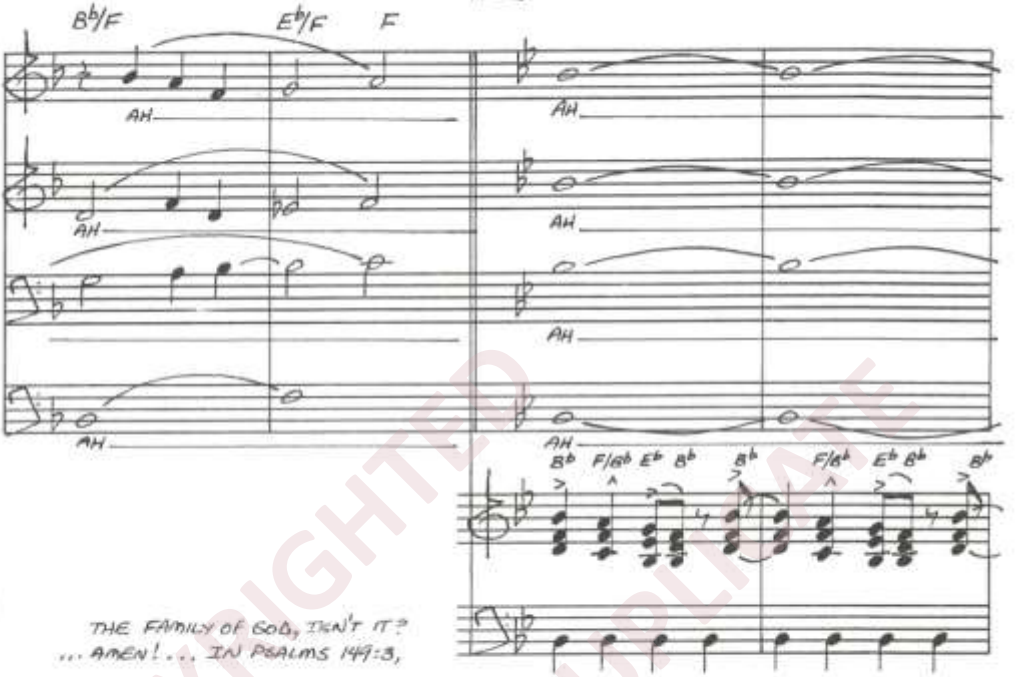
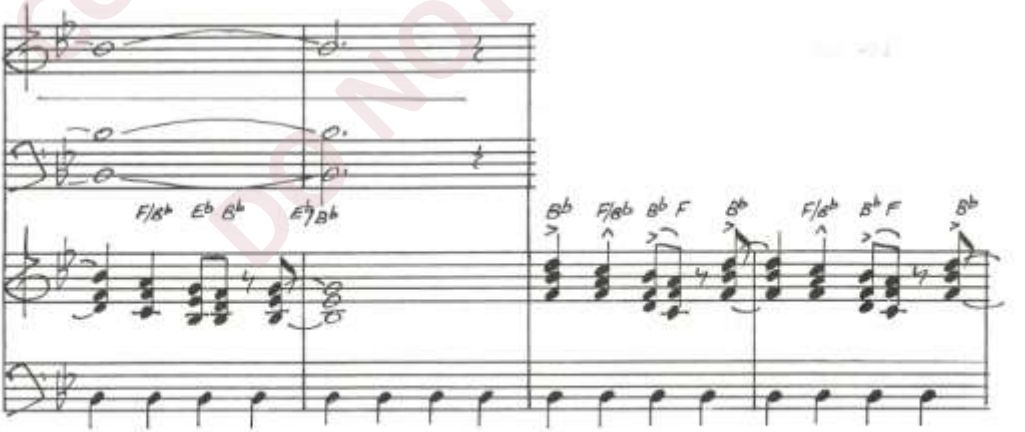
10 NEW TEMPO



THE FAMILY OF GOD, ISN'T IT?
... AMEN! ... IN PSALMS 149:3,

THE SCRIPTURE SAYS TO "HALAL" HIM
IN THE DANCE.. "HALAL" MEANS TO MAKE A SHOW, BE CLAMOROUSLY FOOLISH;
TO BOAST, RAVE; TO CELEBRATE, TO REJOICE!.. KING DAVID WAS SO MOVED



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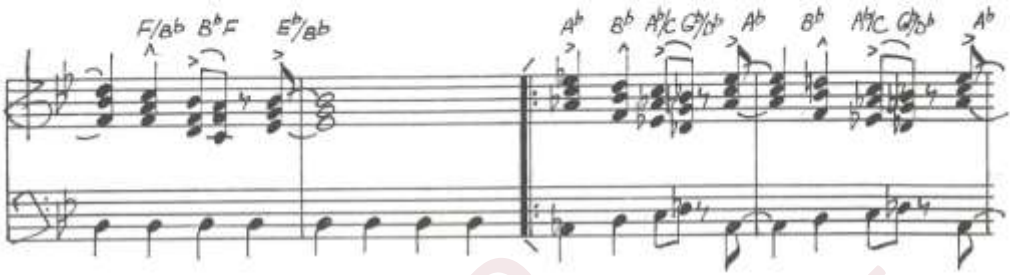
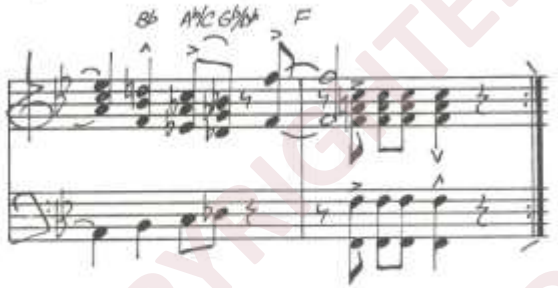
(WORSHIP LEADER CONT.) OF GOD THAT HE "HALALED", DANCED, THROUGH THE STREETS. THAT WAS



QUITE A STORY IN SECOND SAMUEL : SIX! ... AMEN! LET US BE MOVED BY GOD TO DANCE AND CELEBRATE BEFORE HIM THIS MORNING! ... IF YOU FEEL A LITTLE INHIBITED, JUST BOUNCE UP AND DOWN, AMEN! .. OR



"EVERY SUNDAY" / SCENE TWO

"Dance, O Daughters of Zion"

Words by MIMI RIBBLE
Music by MIMI RIBBLE and DAVID HOLSINGER

DO THE "DAVID SHUFFLE" .. LIKE THIS (HE DOES IT), HALLELUJAH! AMEN! ... COME ON! LET'S CELEBRATE! .."

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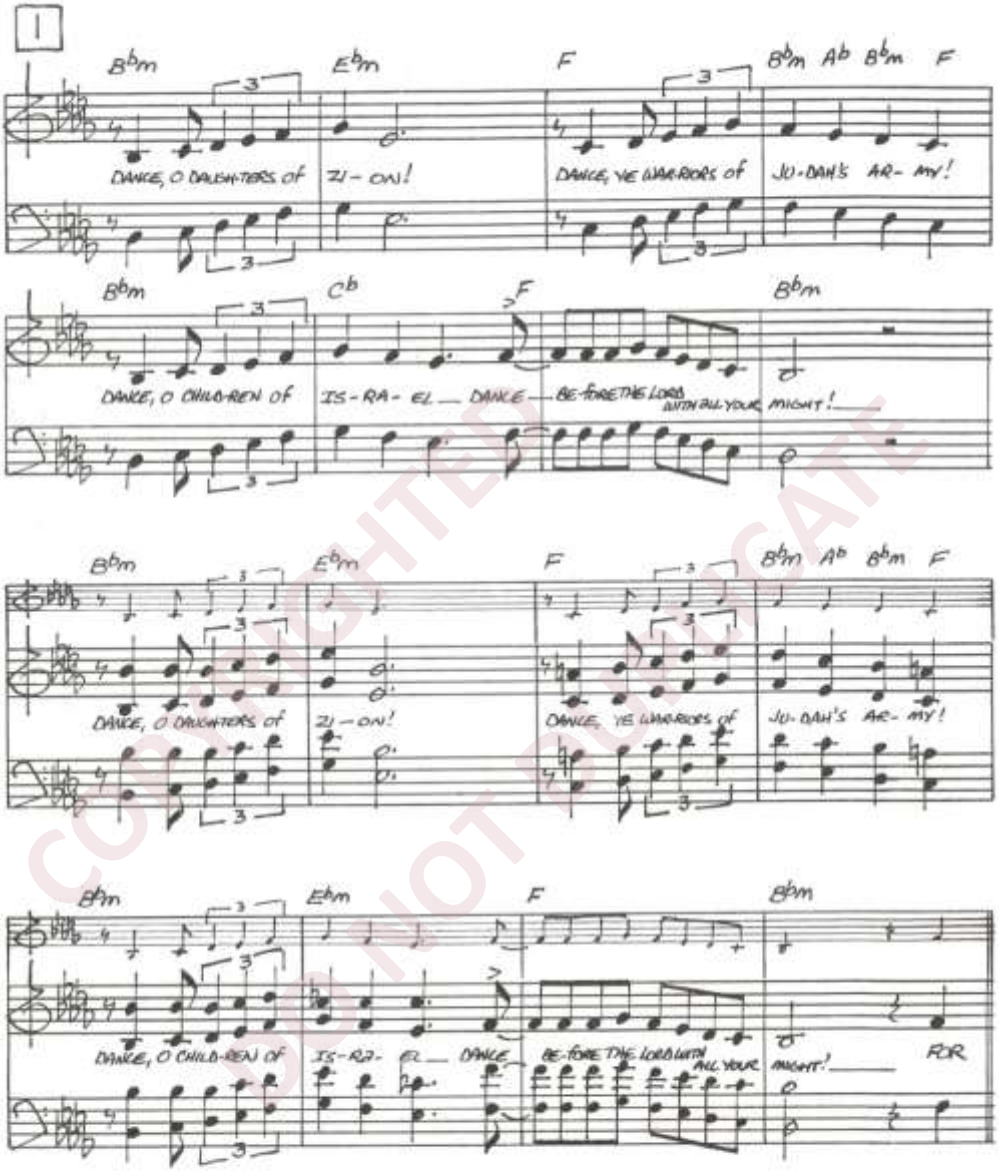

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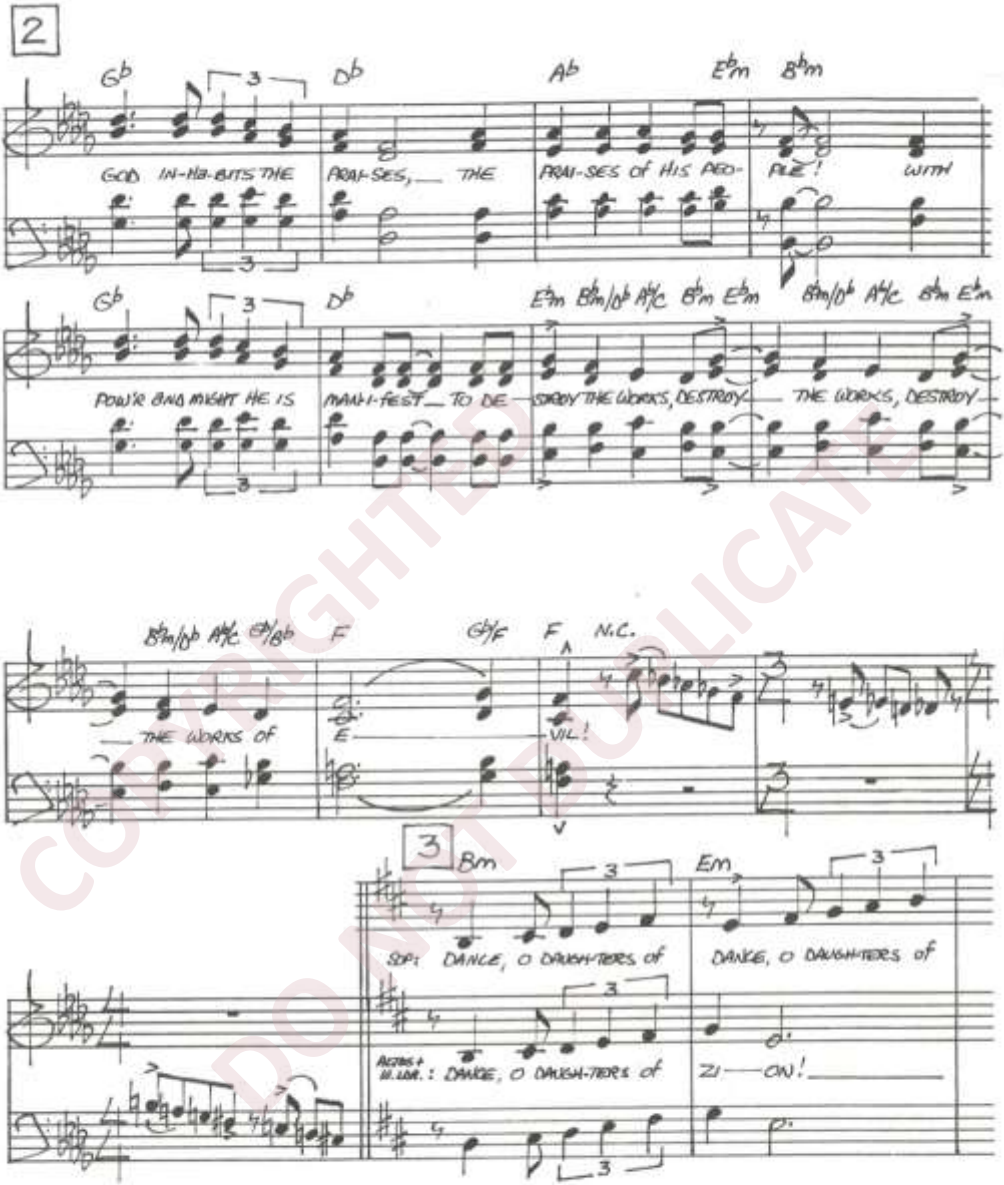

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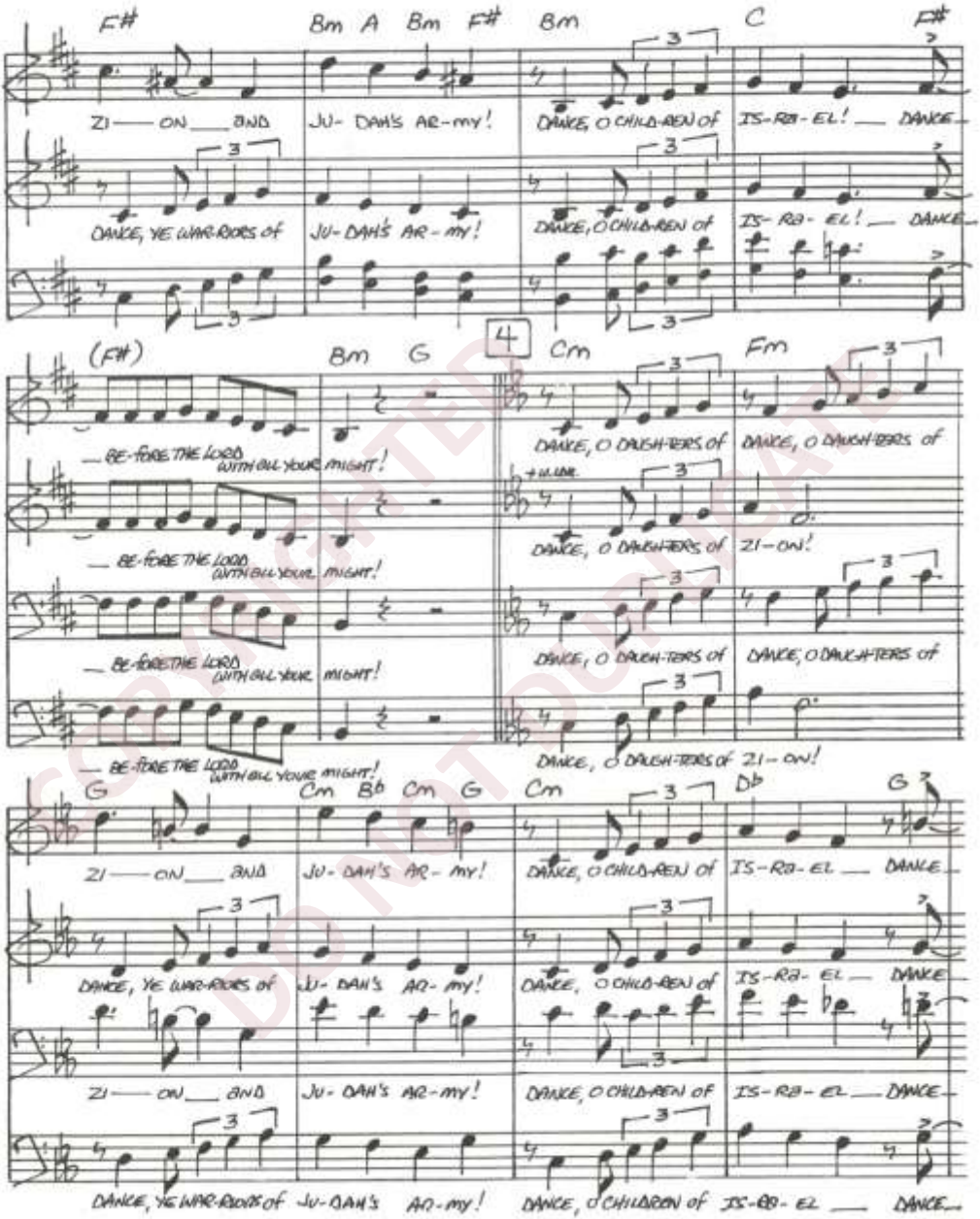

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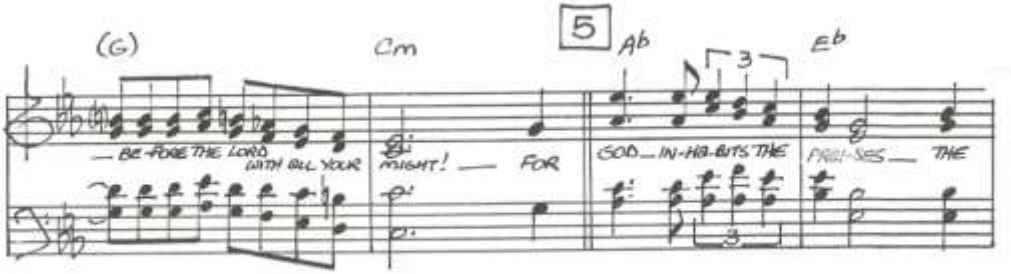
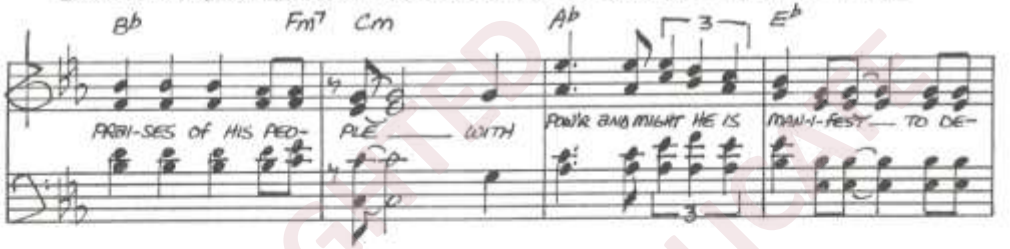
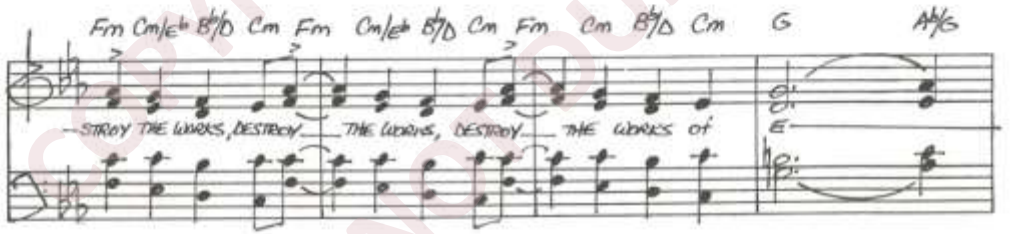


(LIGHTS ON STAGE SLOWLY BEGIN TO DIM AND LIGHTS ON MR. AND MRS. DAVID... IN "CONGREGATION" BEGIN TO COME UP... AUDIENCE FOCUS IS DRAWN



TO "CONGREGATION COUPLE") .... MRS. DAVID JUST STARES AROUND WHILE HER HUSBAND, MR. DAVID, BEGINS TO DANCE BEFORE THE LORD; TIMIDLY AT FIRST, THEN



WITH FULL EXUBERANCE OUT IN THE AISLE AND TOWARD THE STAGE .....

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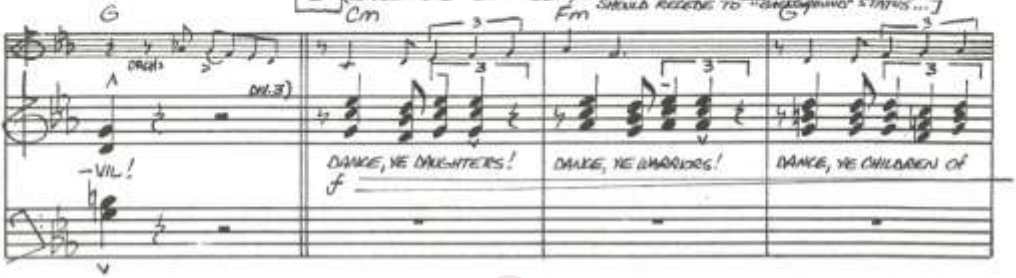
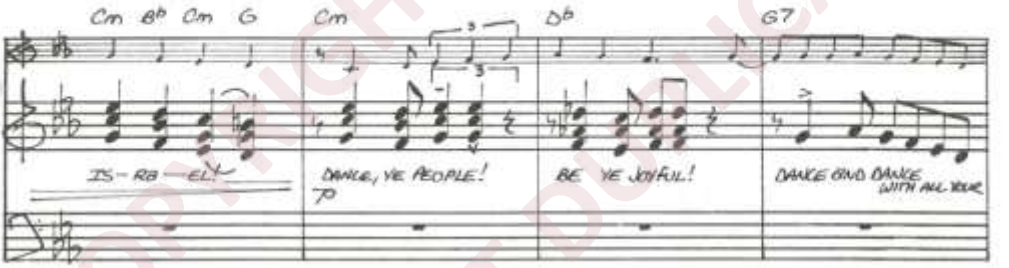
MRS. DAVID: "OH MY WORD!... WILL YOU LOOK AT HIM!... DAVID!... COME BACK HERE THIS MINUTE! I HAVE NEVER BEEN SO....

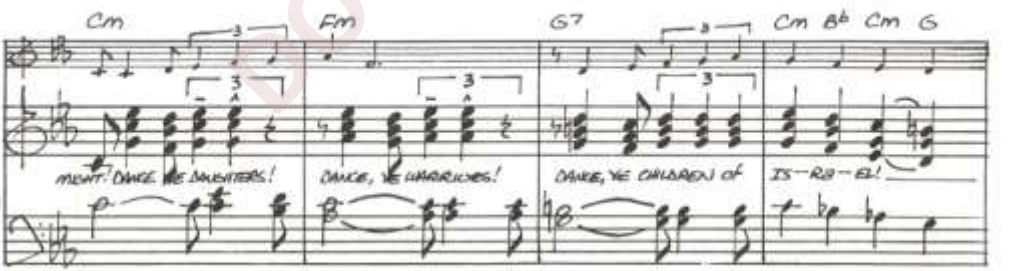
6 (ENSEMBLE: DECREASC.) [PLATFORM GROUPS LOOK AS ANIMATED, BUT SHOULD RECEDE TO "BACKGROUND" STATUS...]



MRS. DAVID (CONT.): ...OH MY!... YOU STOP THAT." [TO PERSON NEXT TO HER] "HE'S USUALLY NOT LIKE THIS... HE HASN'T BEEN WELL... NOT WELL AT ALL...!.." [LOOKS OVER TO DISCOVER THAT WOMAN TO WHOM SHE HAS BEEN TALKING IS ALSO DANCING ENTHUSIASTICLY.. ....DOES "SLOW BURN" DOUBLE-TAKE TO AUDIENCE...]



(FROM THE "BALCONY" AREA, LIGHTS UP ON MICHAL, KING DAVID'S WIFE, [IN PERIOD DRESS] WATCHING MR. DAVID/KING DAVID DANCE ABOUT THE STAGE...)



MEN: DANCE, DAUGH-TERS, DANCE, WAR-RIORS, DANCE, ALL YE MEN OF IS-RAEL (7)

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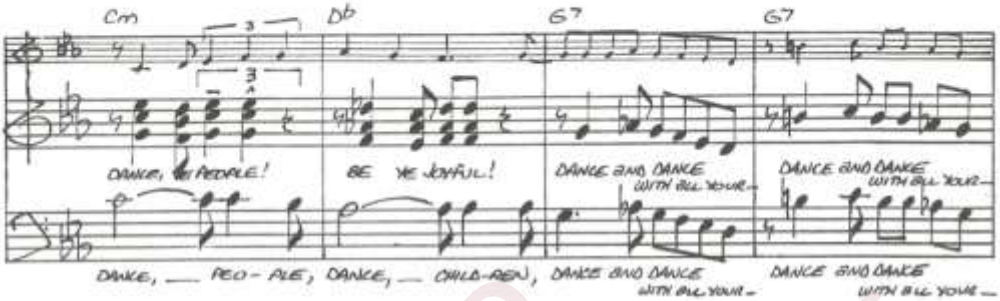
(DIALOGUE IN QUICK SUCCESSION)

MICHAL: "I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!..."

MRS. DAVID: "I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!..."

MICHAL: "I SHOULDA LISTENED TO MY MOTHER!..."

MRS. DAVID: "I SHOULDA LISTENED TO MY MOTHER!..."

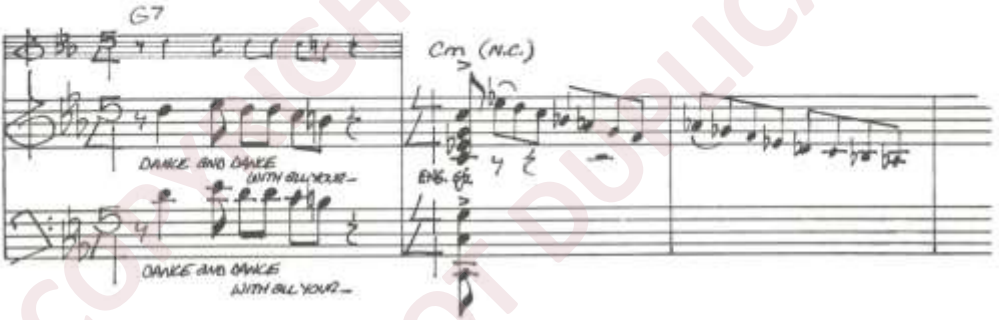


MICHAL: "SHE SAID YOU WERE NUTS!..."

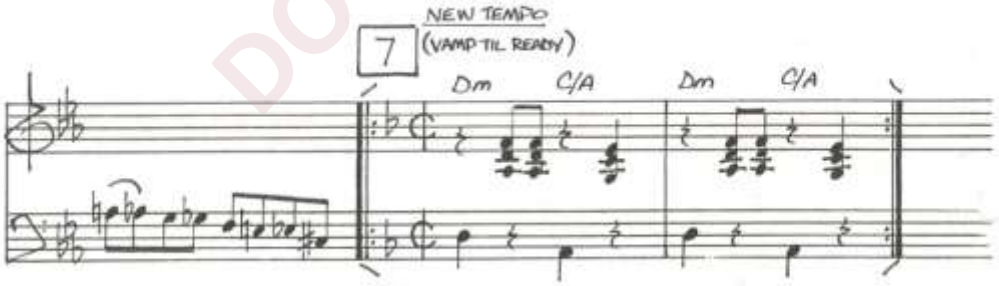
MRS. DAVID: "SHE SAID YOU WERE NUTS!..."

MICHAL: "DAVID! CUT THAT OUT!"

MRS. DAVID: "Oooo — I'M SO EMBARRASSED!..."



MICHAL: [TO MRS. DAVID] "YOU'RE EMBARRASSED?... LOOK SWEETIE, YOUR HUSBAND'S JUST A USED-CAR SALESMAN. MINE IS THE KING!... YOU WANNA TALK EMBARRASSED!.... OY VEY!..."



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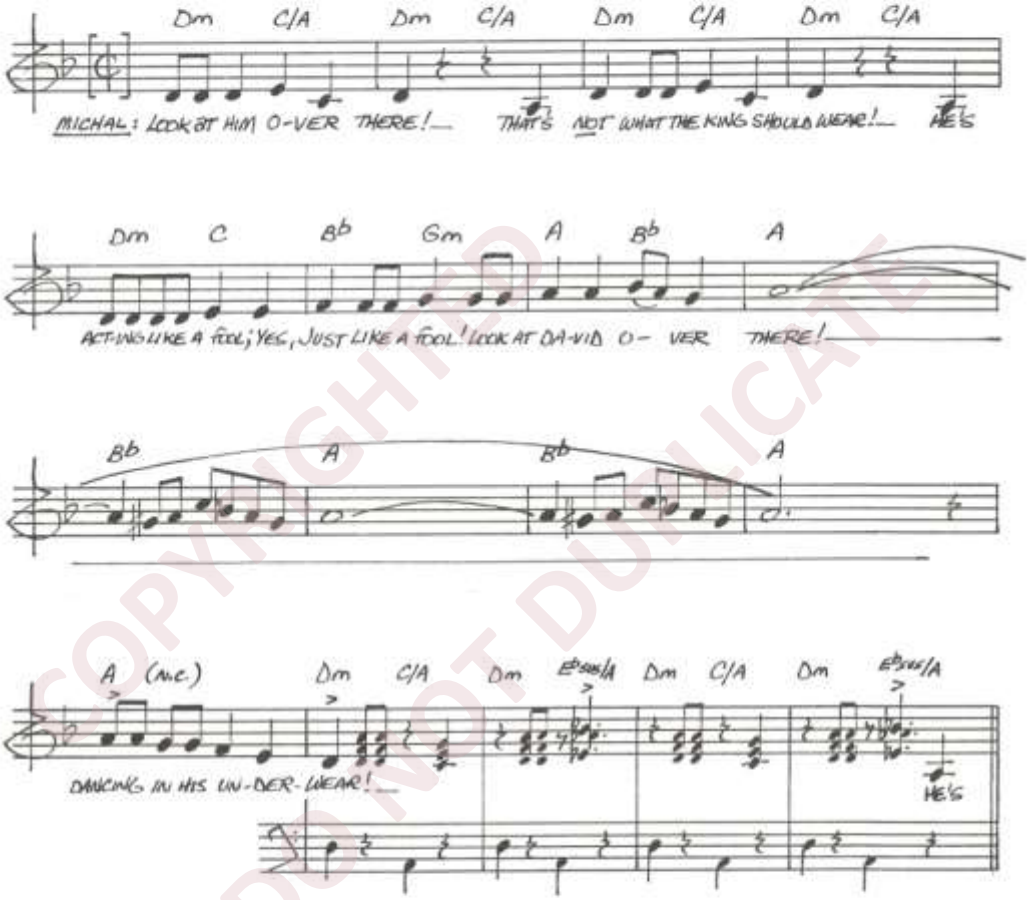
"Michal's Song"

Words and Music by MIMI RIBBLE



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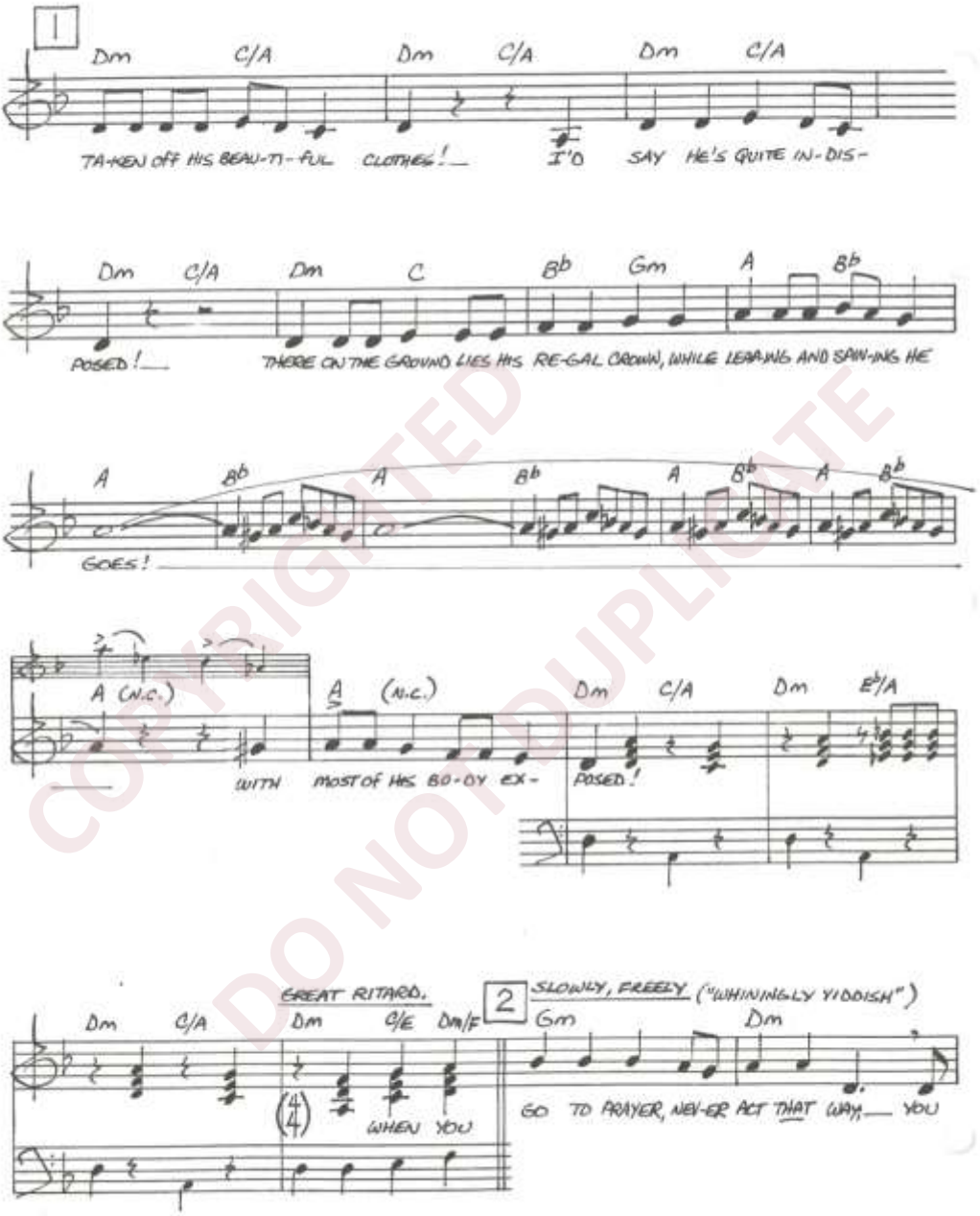

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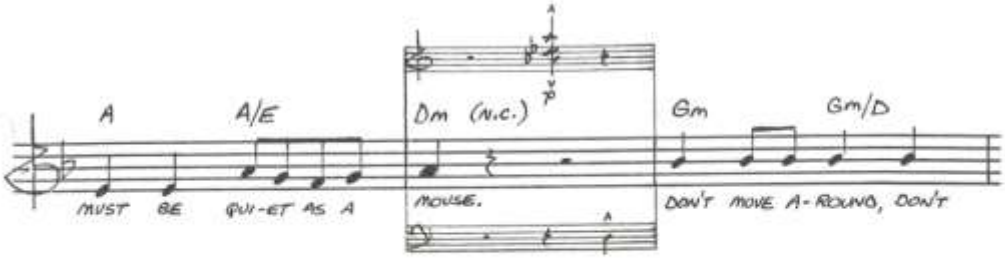

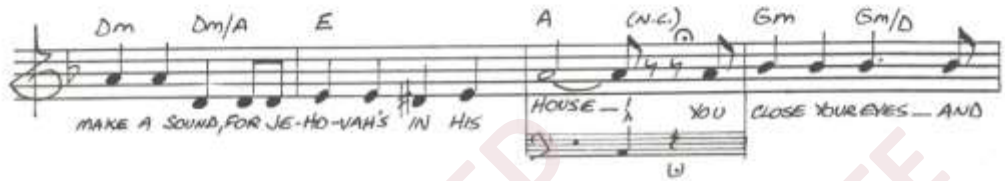

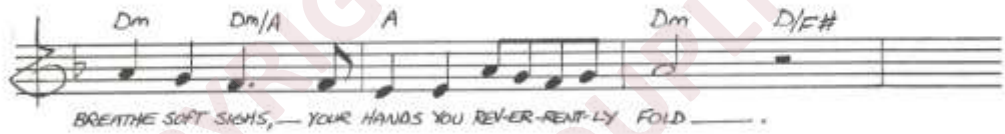

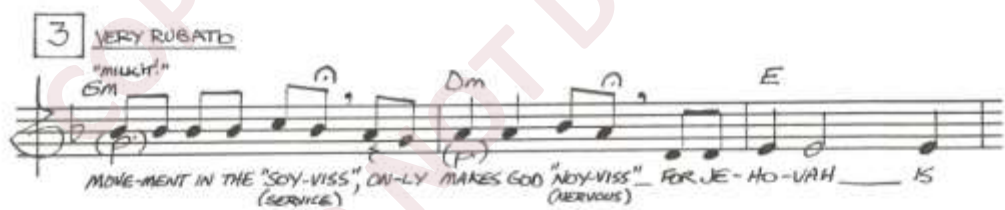

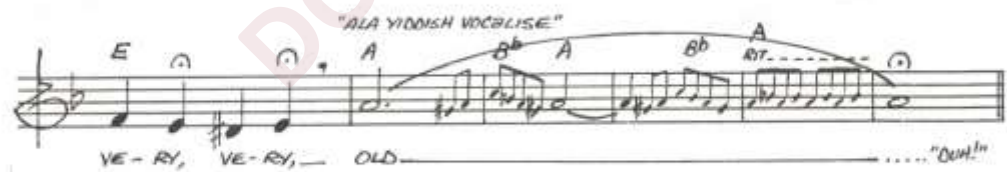

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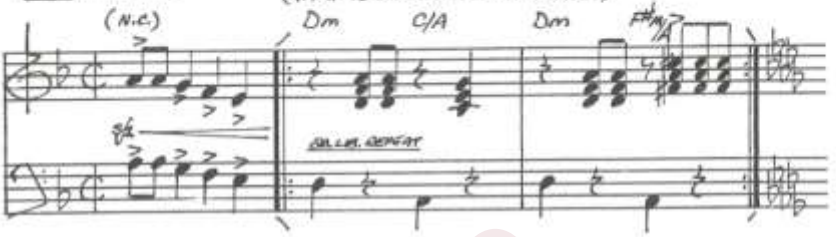
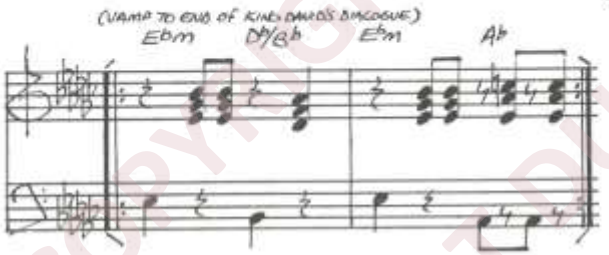
MICHAL: "OH MY, DOESN'T THE KING LOOK DISTINGUISHED TODAY!... DISROBING IN THE SIGHT OF SLAVE GIRLS AND SERVANTS! JUST LIKE ANY VULGAR FELLOW WOULD! YOU ARE AN EMBARRASSMENT TO ME AND MY FATHER'S HOUSE! COME IN AND ACT LIKE THE KING YOU WERE CHOSEN TO BE!...."

4 A TEMPO



KING DAVID (MR. DAVID): "I AM DANCING FOR THE LORD WHO CHOSE ME AS KING OVER ISRAEL, NOT YOUR FATHER OR ANYONE FROM THIS HOUSE! I WILL CELEBRATE BEFORE THE LORD! I WILL ACT EVEN MORE UNDIGNIFIED THAN THIS AND EVEN BE HUMILIATED IN MY OWN EYES, BUT THE SLAVE GIRLS YOU SPOKE OF WILL HOLD ME IN HONOR!..."



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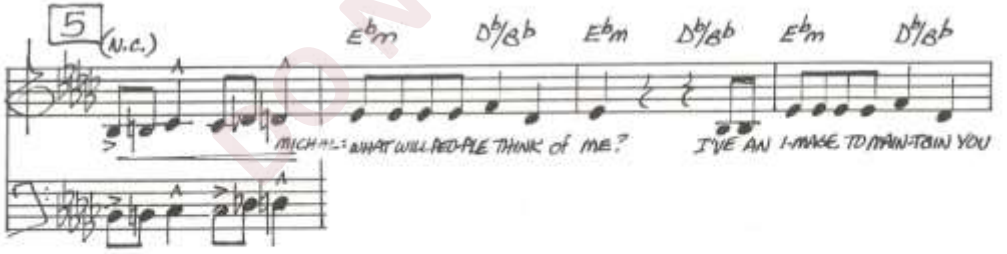

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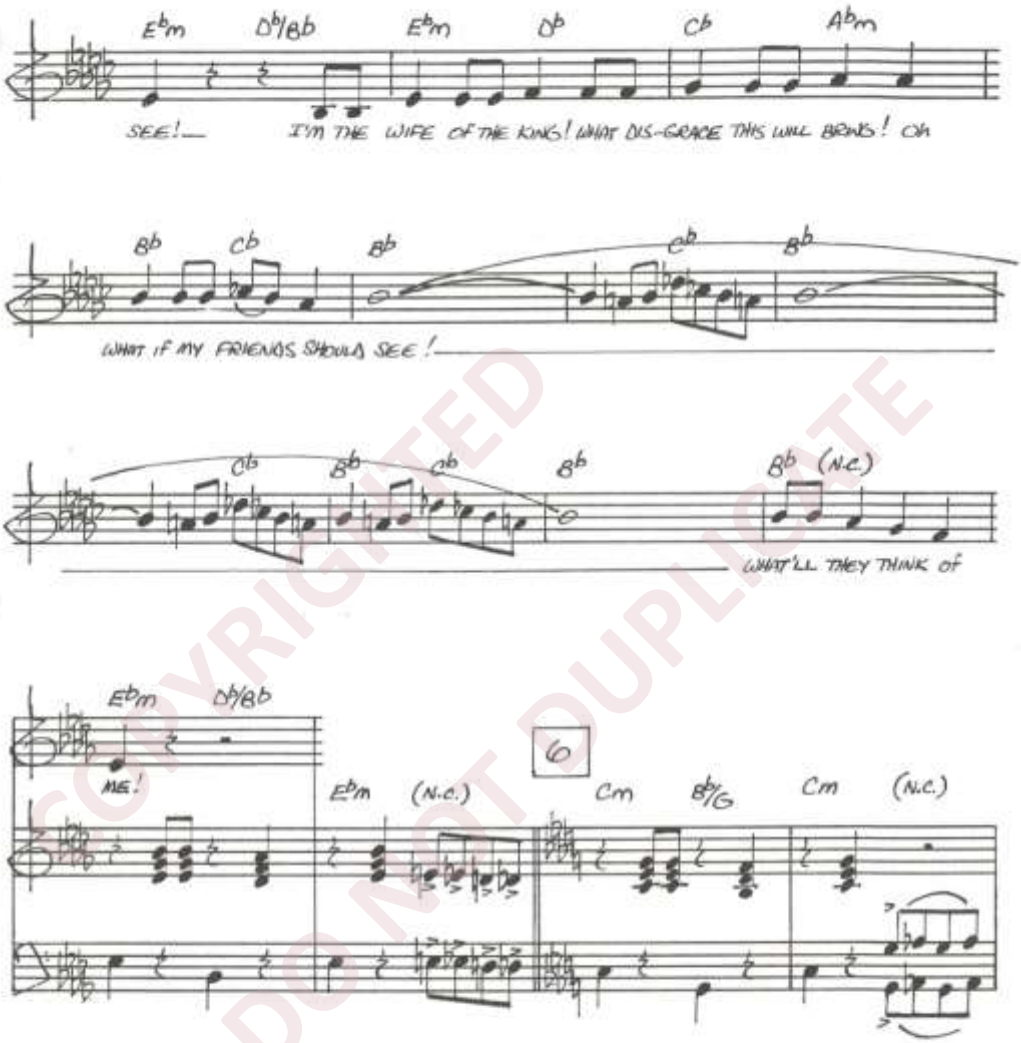

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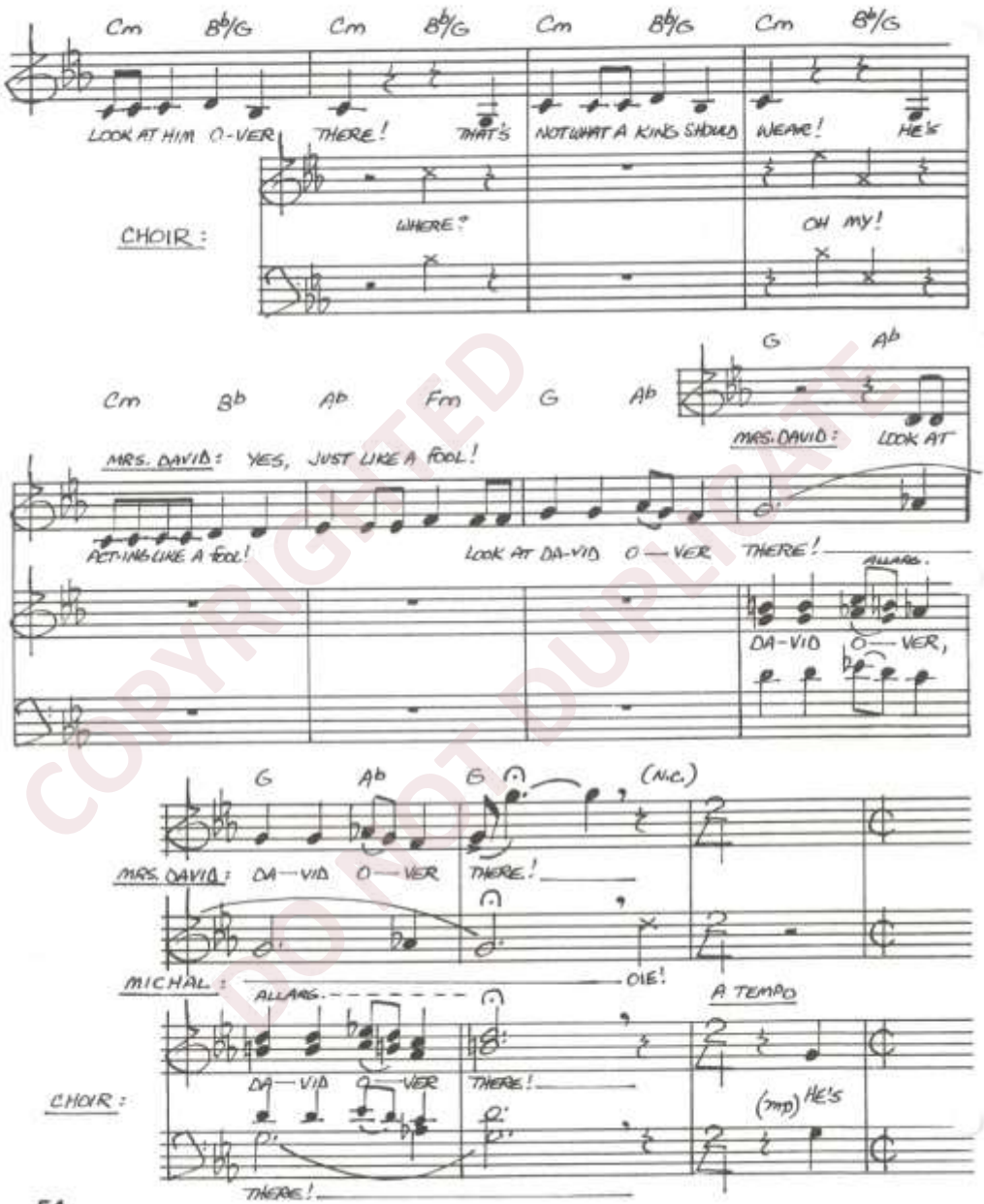

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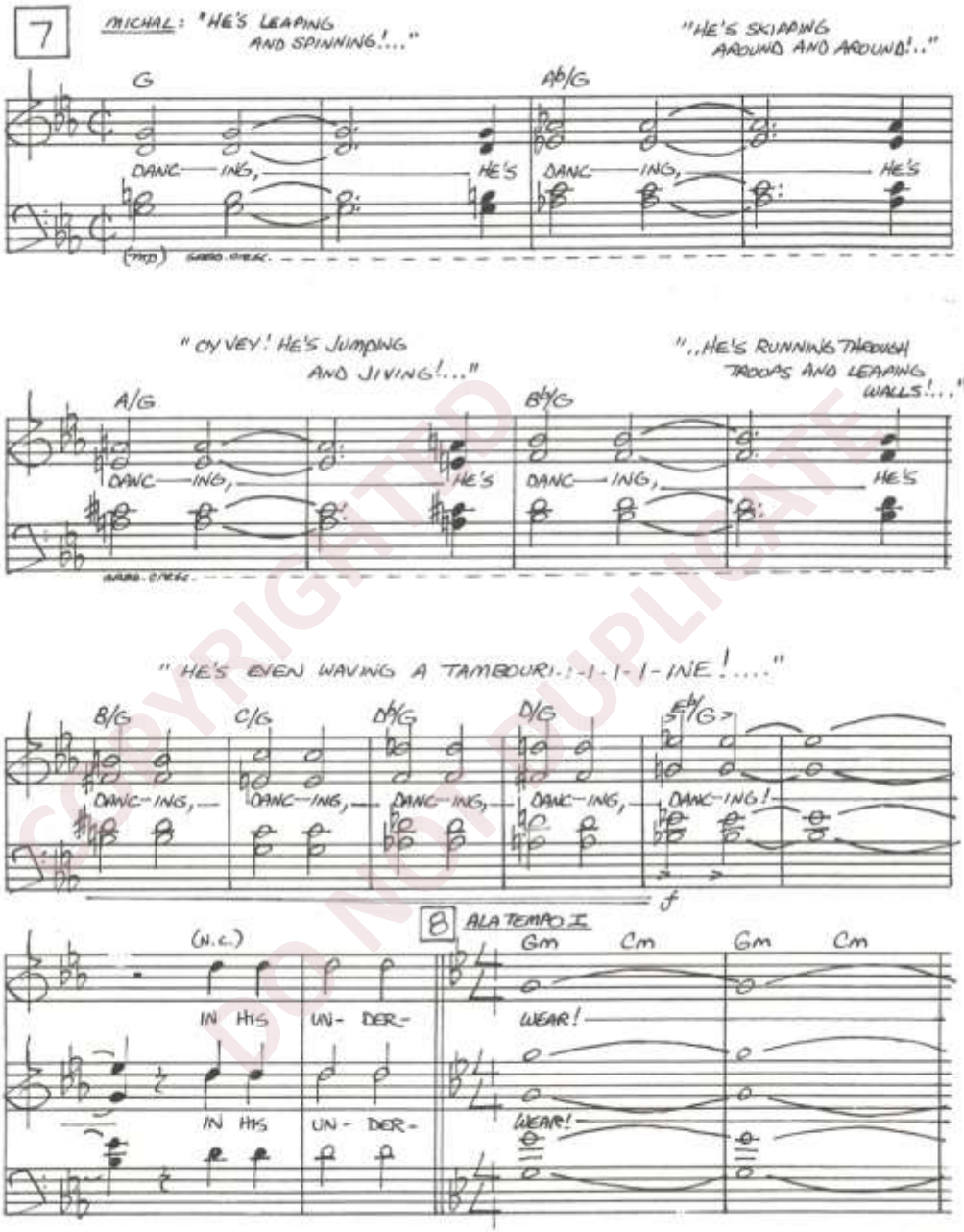

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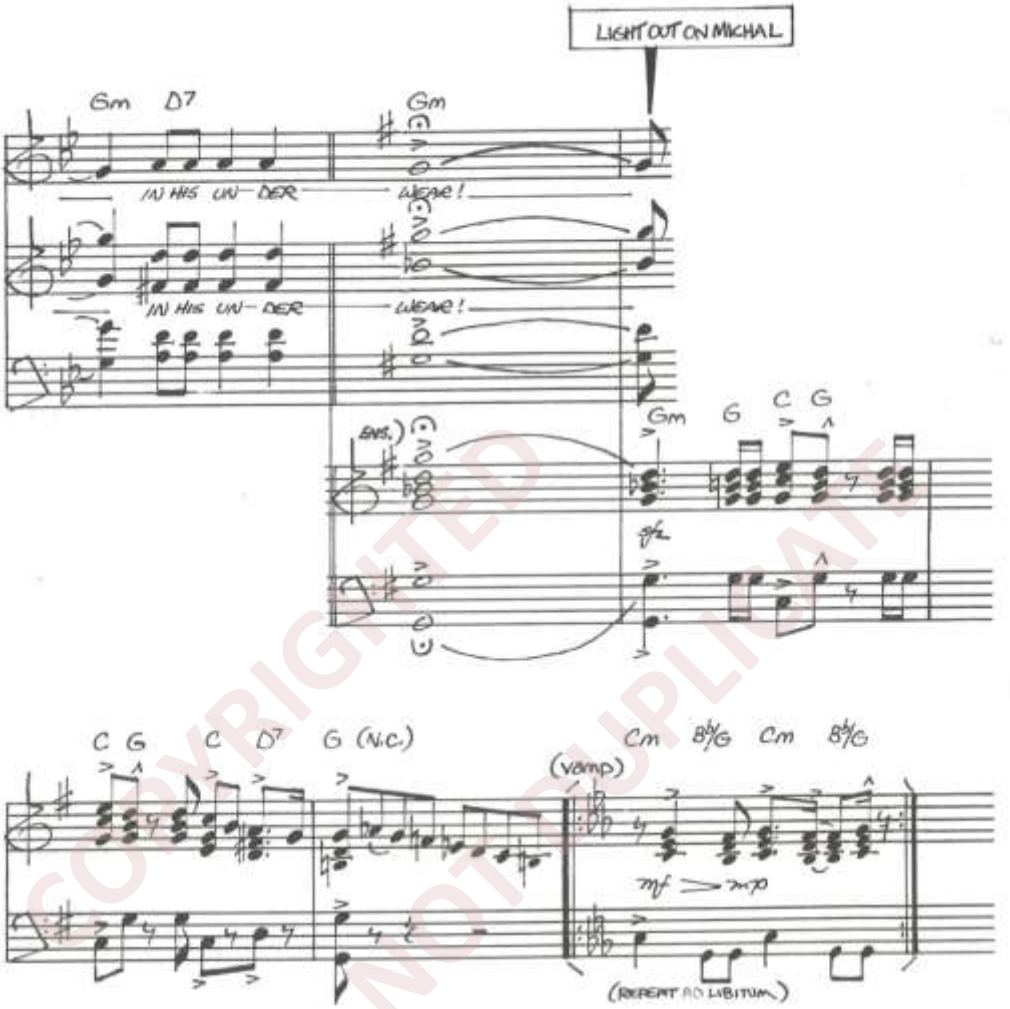

MRS. DAVID: "MICHAL'S HEART WAS SO HARD... OH MY GOODNESS, I REMEMBER NOW. MICHAL WAS BARREN HER WHOLE LIFE... O LORD, WILL YOU FORGIVE ME? PLEASE LET MY LIFE BE FRUITFUL FOR YOU...." (SHE RAISES HER HANDS AND LOOKS TO HEAVEN...)

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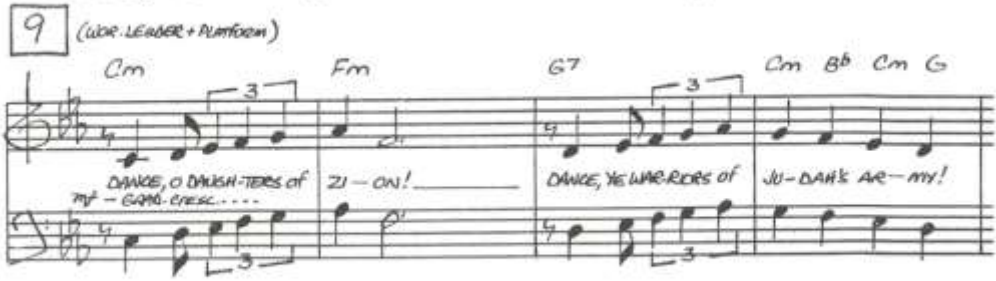
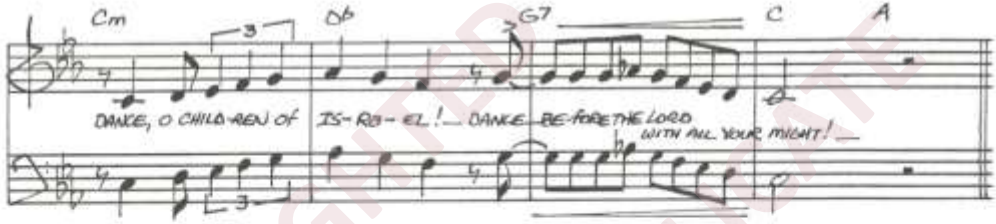
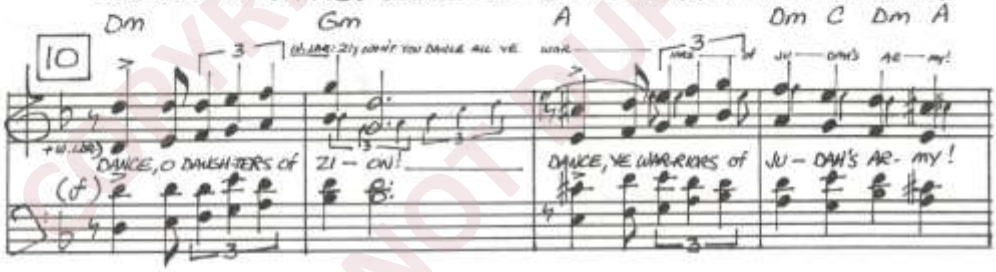
"Dance, O Daughters of Zion" Reprise



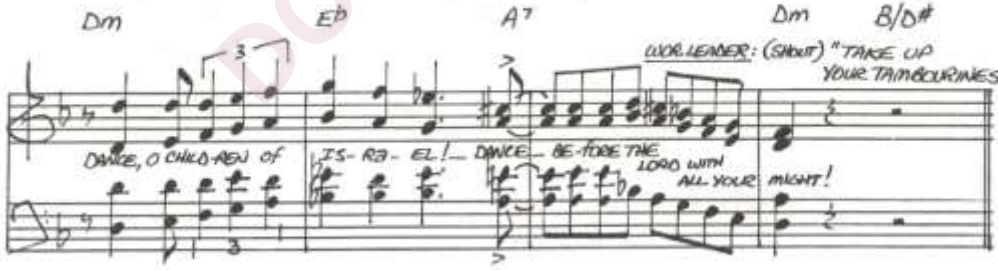
(... AS THE ACTION ON THE PLATFORM BEGINS TO BUILD, MRS. DAVID OPENS HER EYES .... LOOKS ABOUT HER.....



... BRINGS HER HANDS DOWN... SHE BEGINS TO HOP A BIT... TENTATIVELY



DOES A KICK OR TWO... AND FINALLY.... SIMPLY SHRUGGING OFF HER HESITANCY.....



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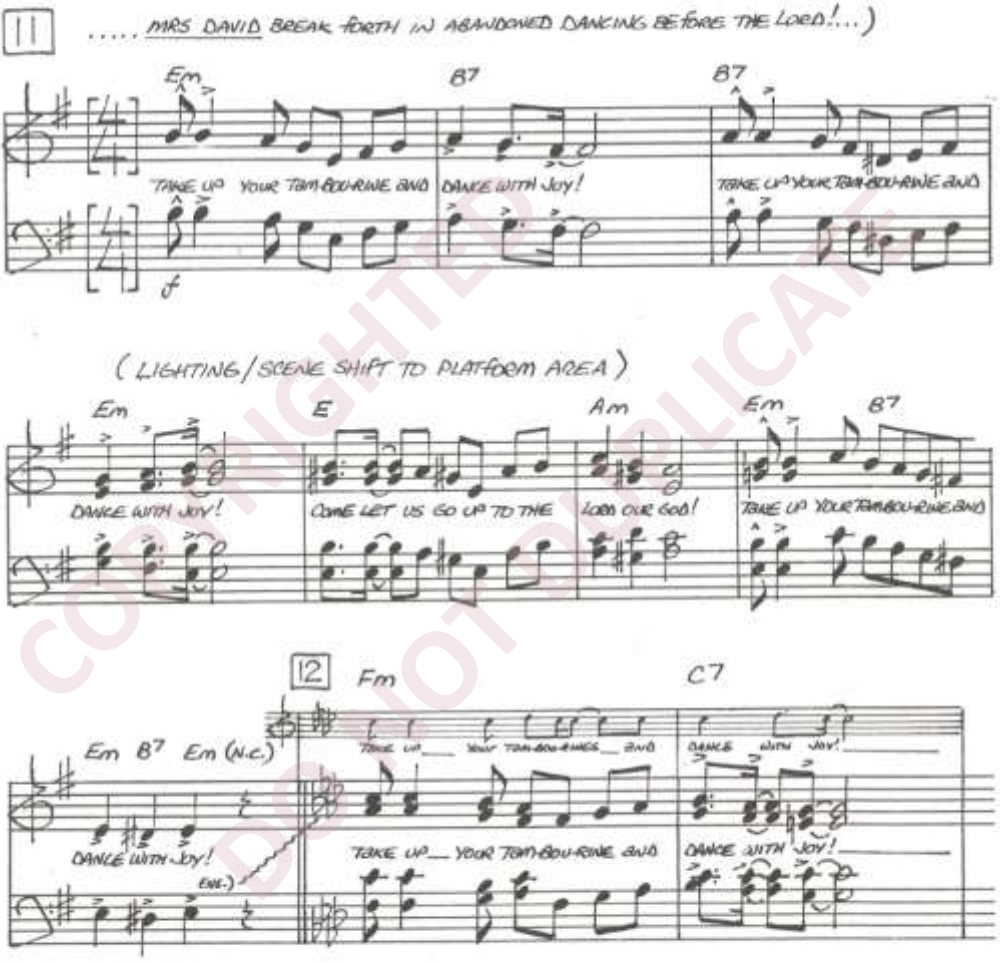
"Take Up Your Tambourine!"

Words & Music by WARREN HASTINGS



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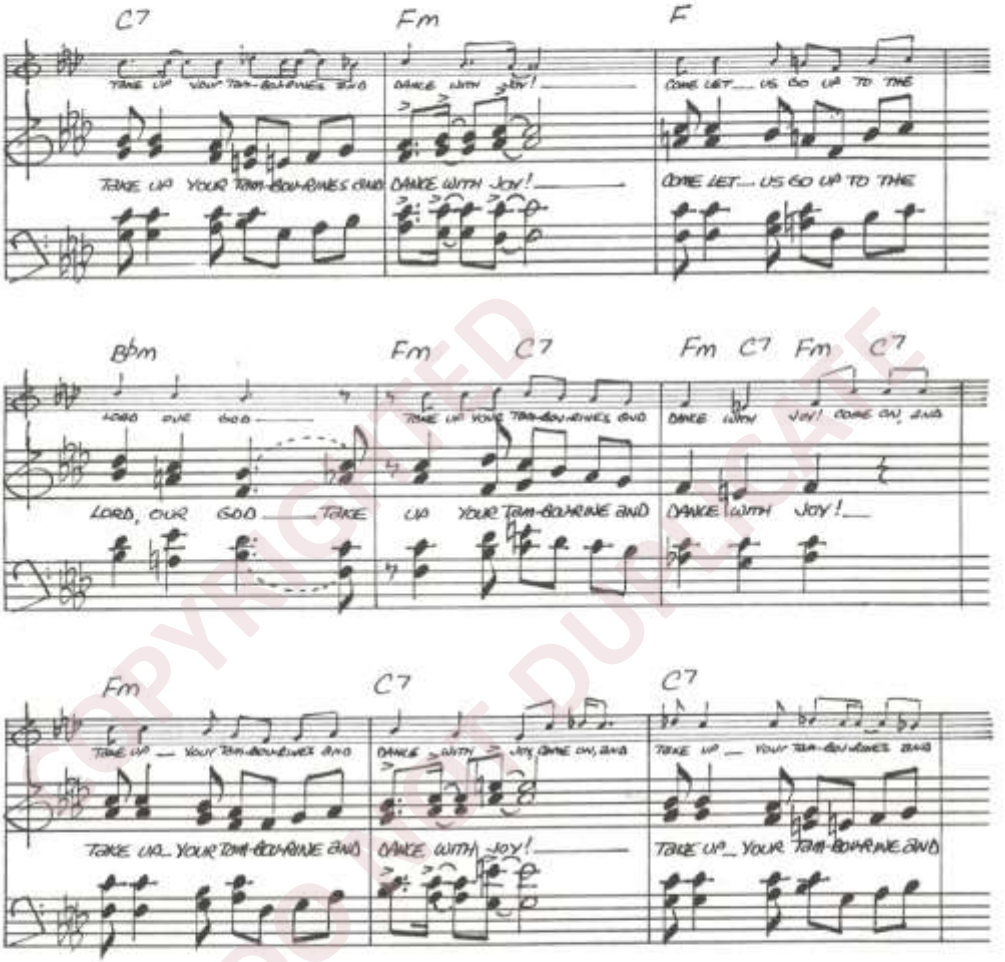

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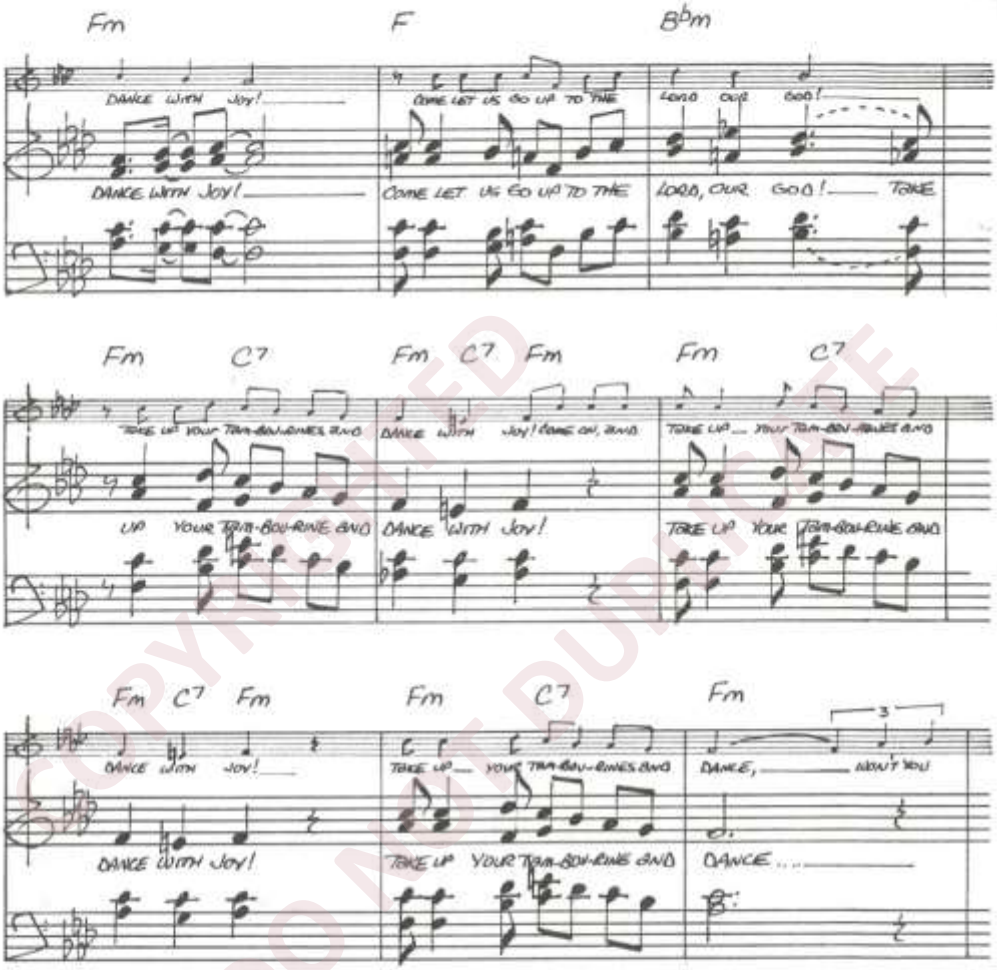

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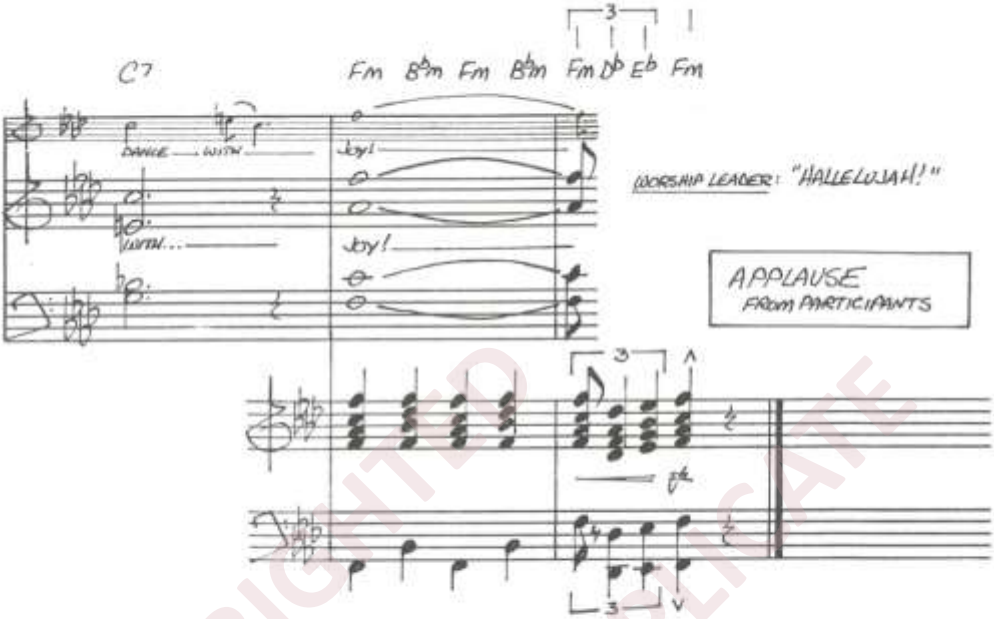

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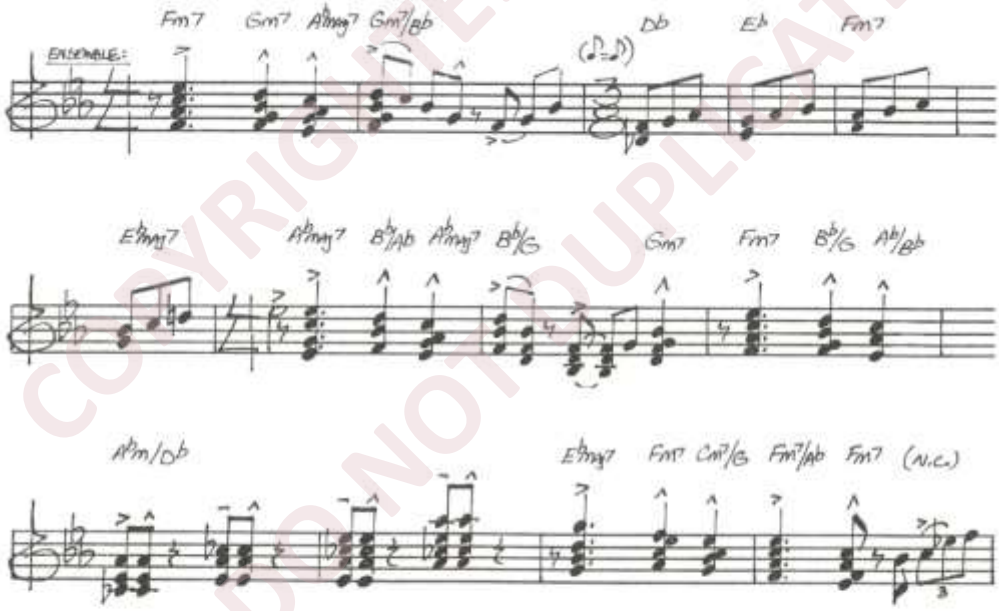
"EVERY SUNDAY" SCENE THREE

"Offer Up a Song of Praise"

Words & Music by MIMI RIBBLE

WORSHIP LEADER: "PRAISE THE LORD! ... WHEW! ... ISN'T IT GOOD TO DANCE BEFORE THE LORD?!? INDEED, HE IS ABLE TO TURN OUR MOURNING INTO DANCING! AMEN? AMEN! .... WELL, BROTHERS AND SISTERS, LET'S BE SEATED FOR JUST A MINUTE ... I BELIEVE THAT OUR MUSIC DEPARTMENT - THE CHOIR, ORCHESTRA, AND DANCERS HAVE A SPECIAL PRESENTATION FOR US AT THIS TIME ...."

("MUSIC DIRECTOR/BAND LEADER" KICKS OFF MUSIC IN "BIG SWING BAND" STYLE!...)



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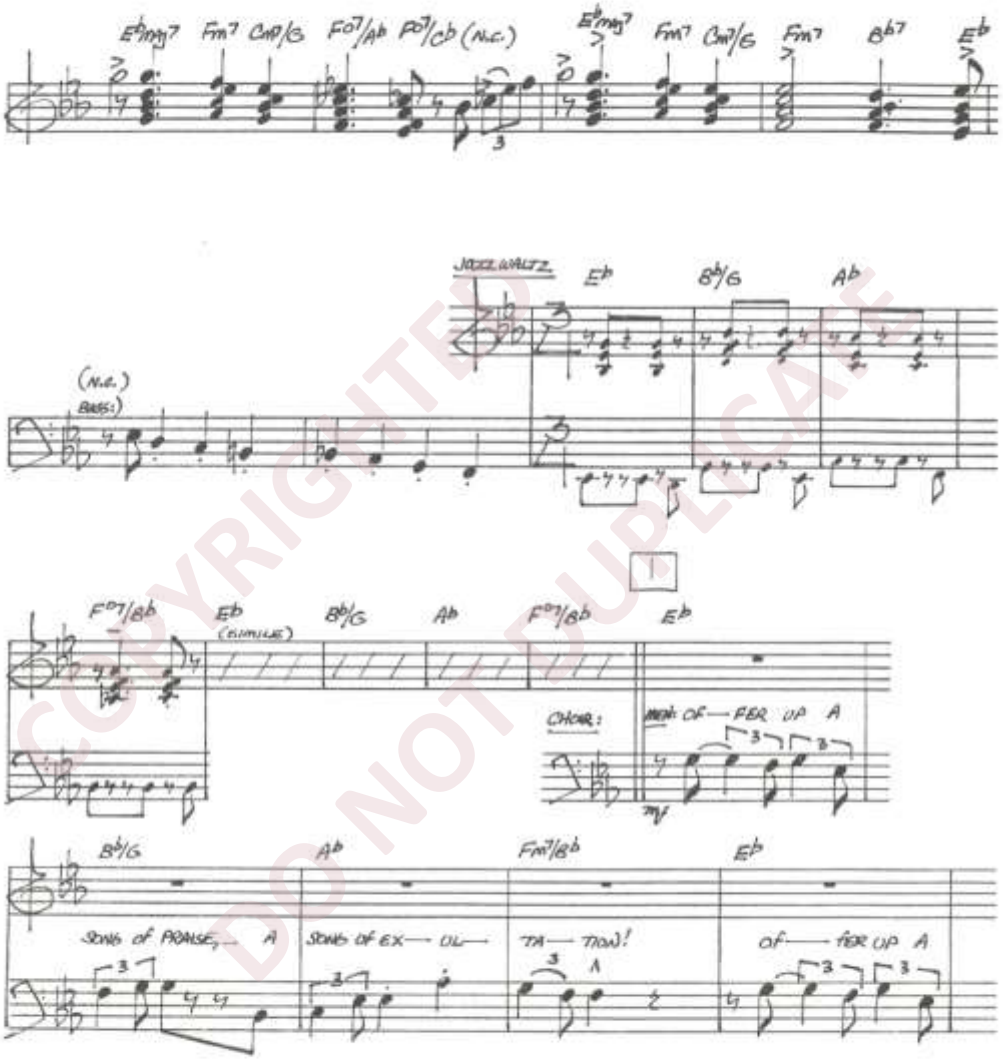

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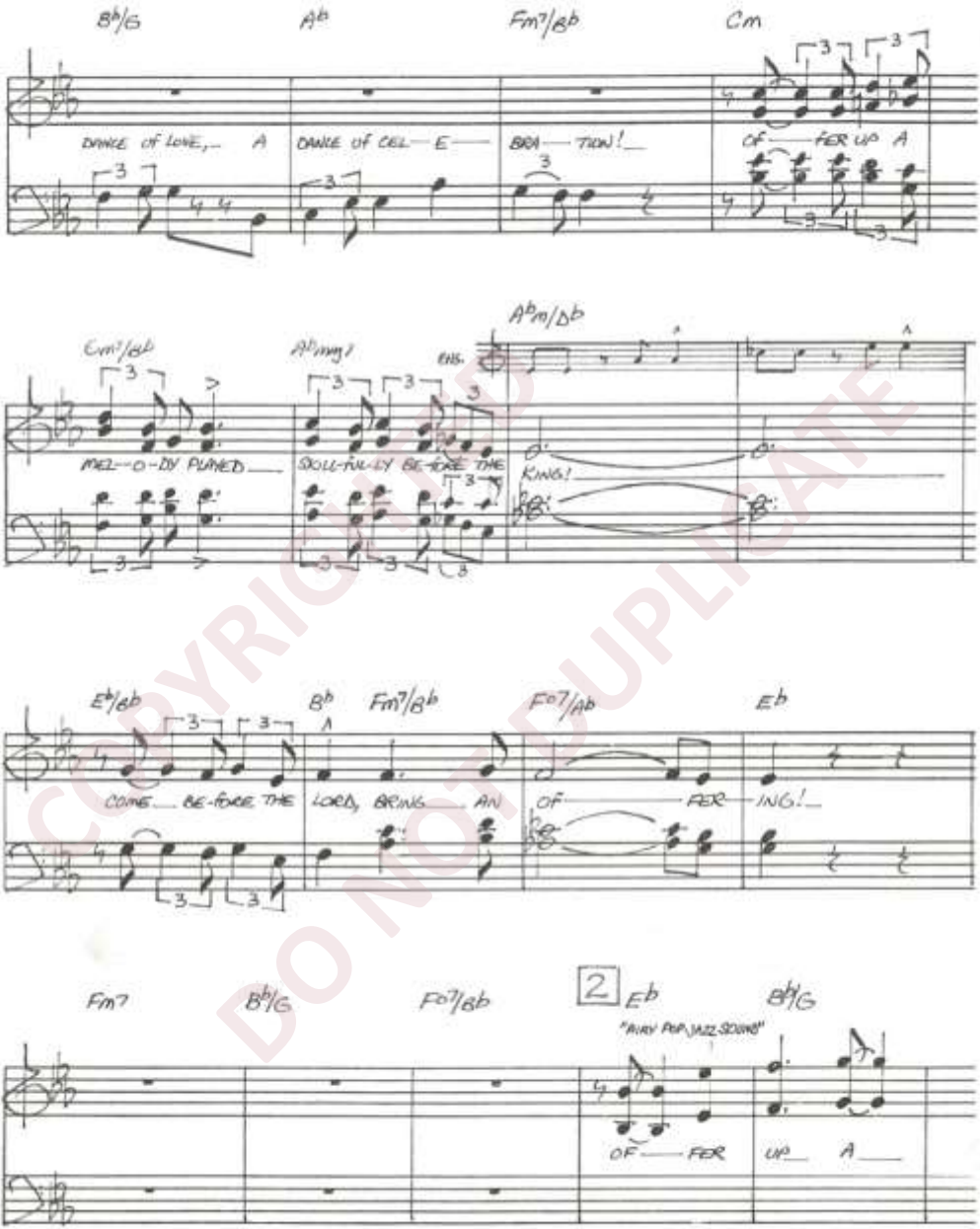

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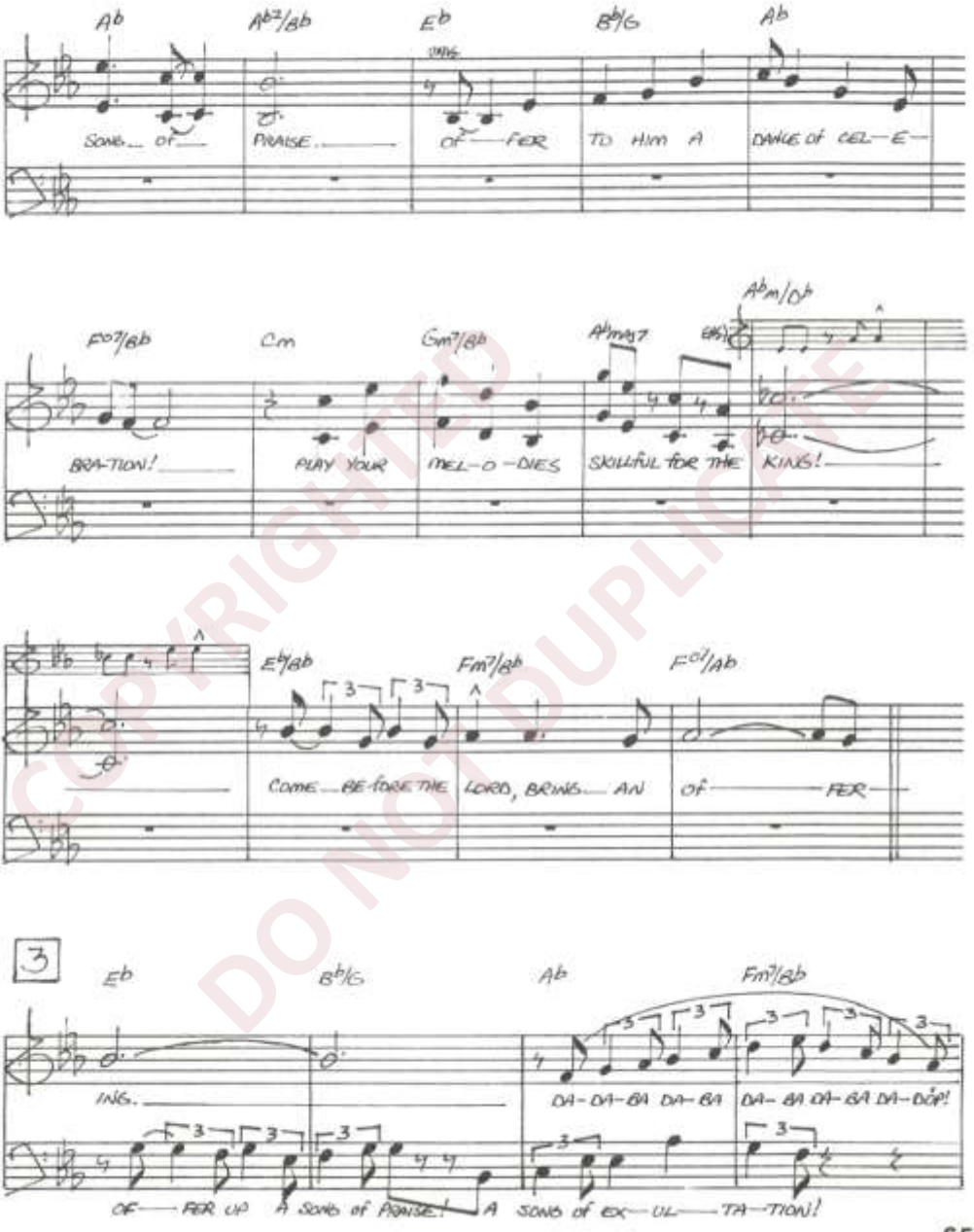

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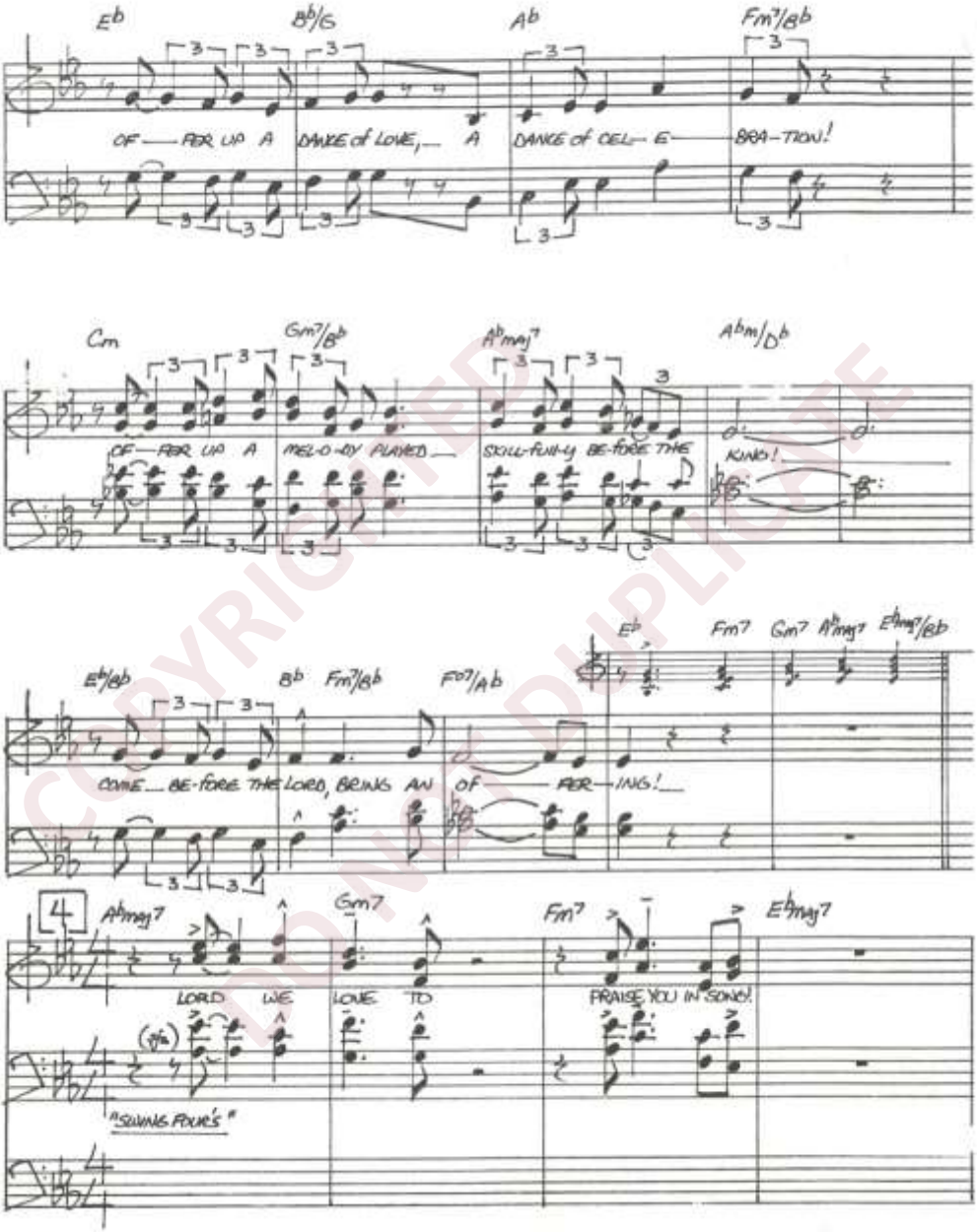

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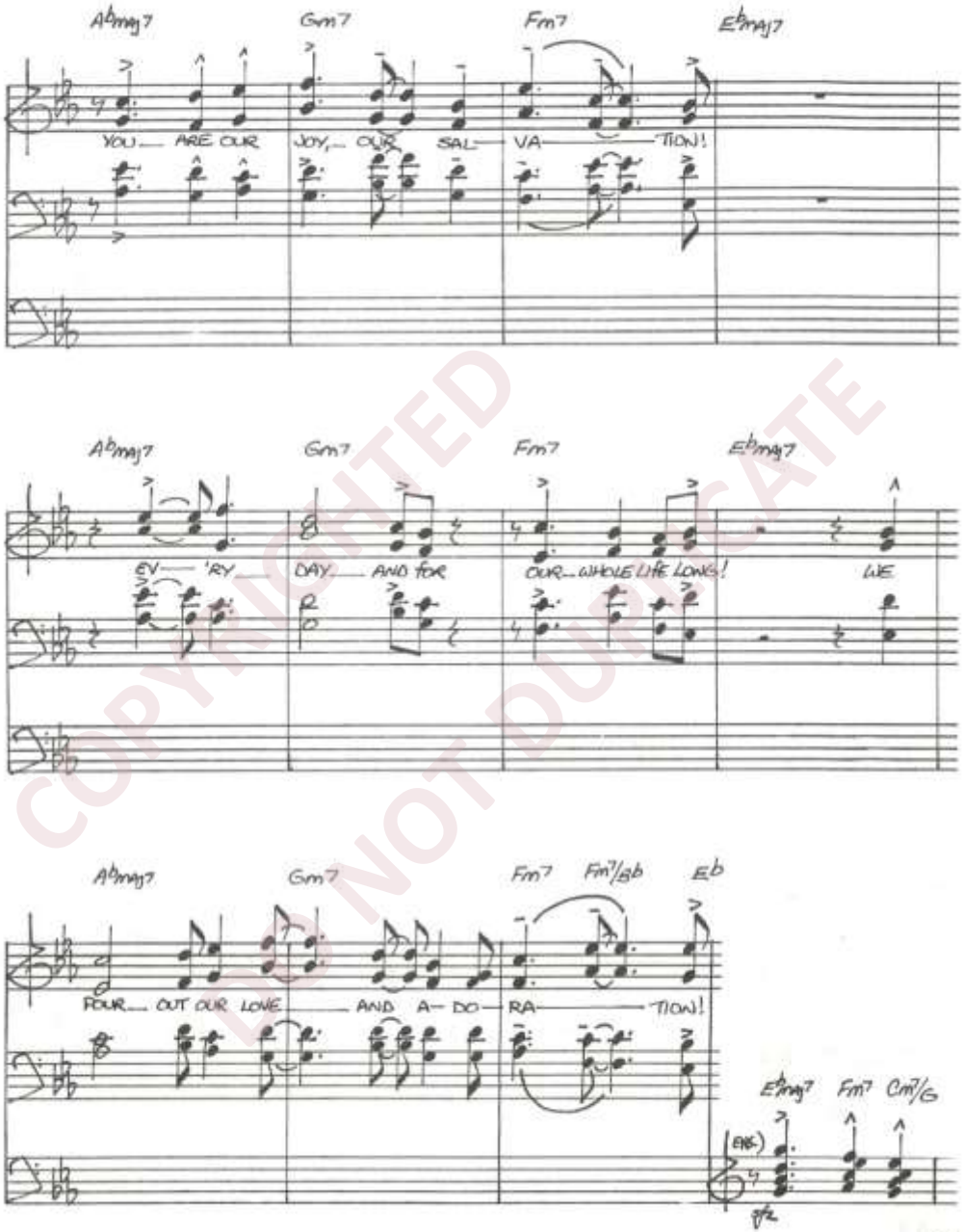

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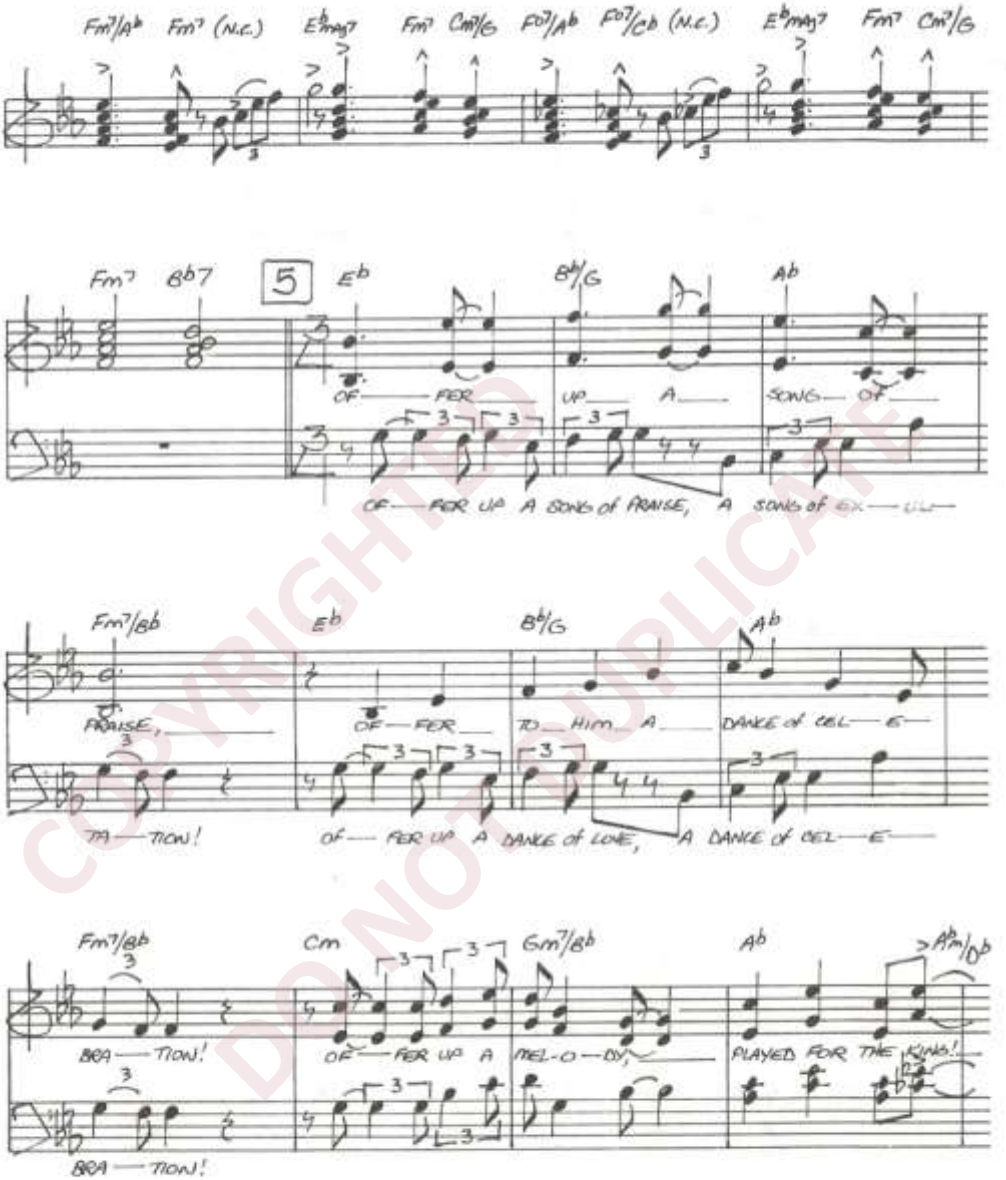

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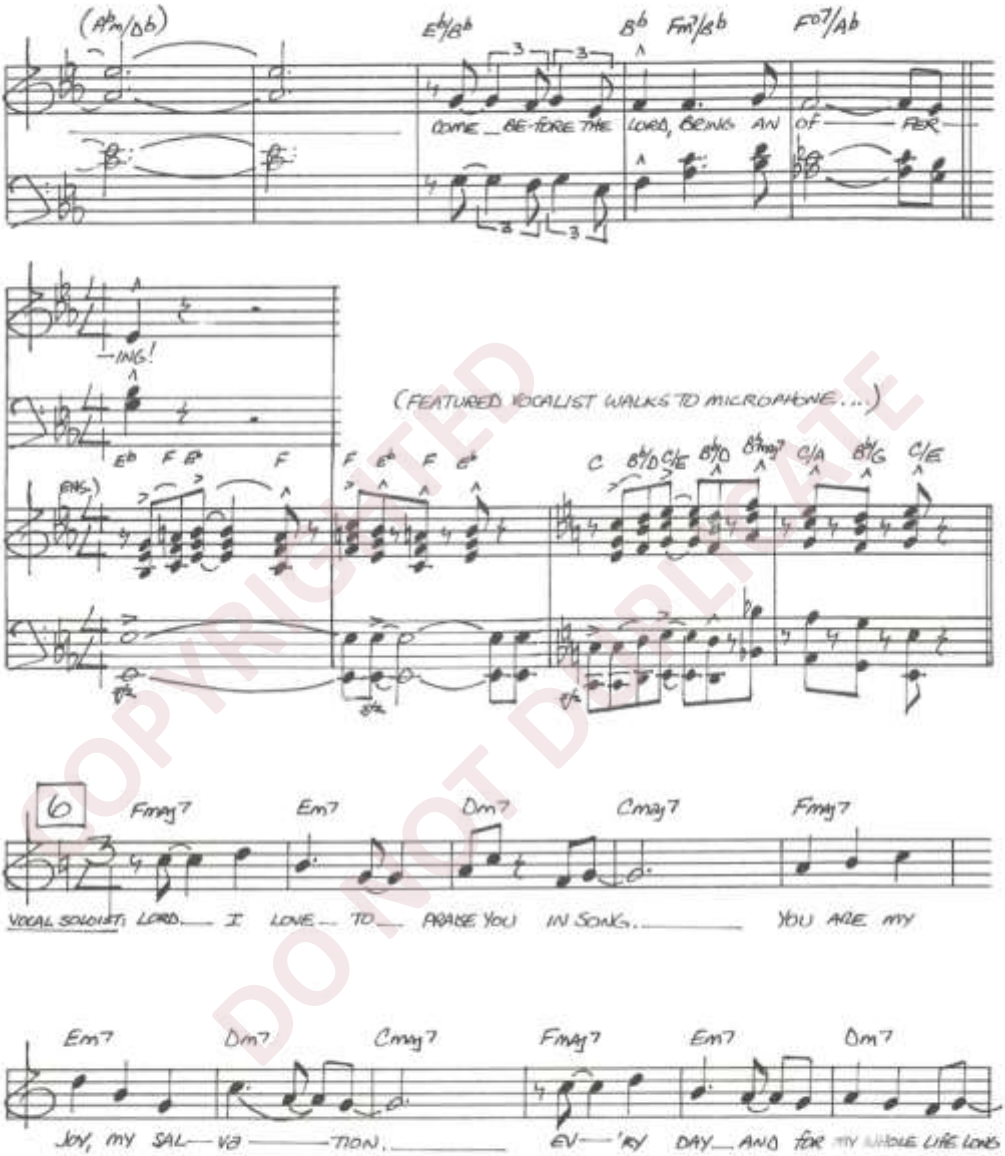

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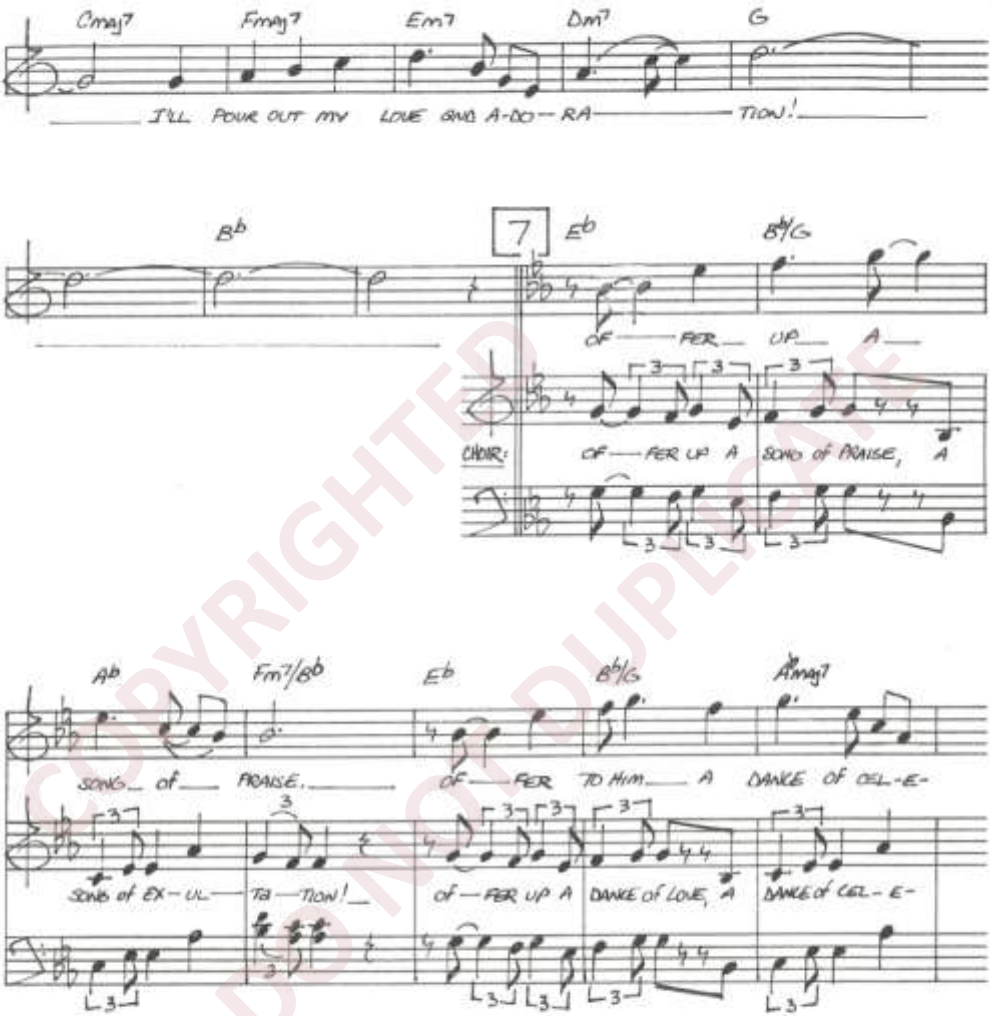

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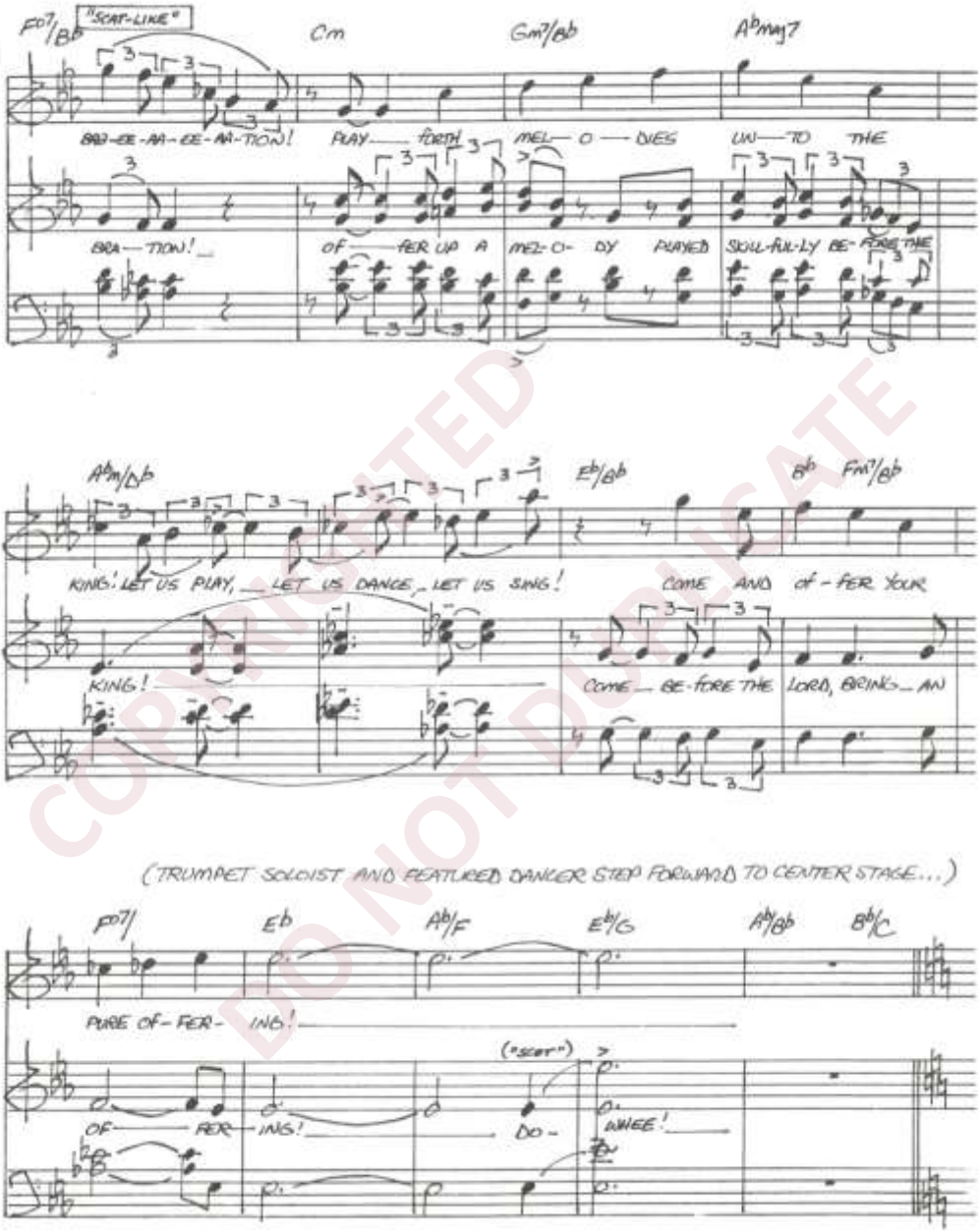

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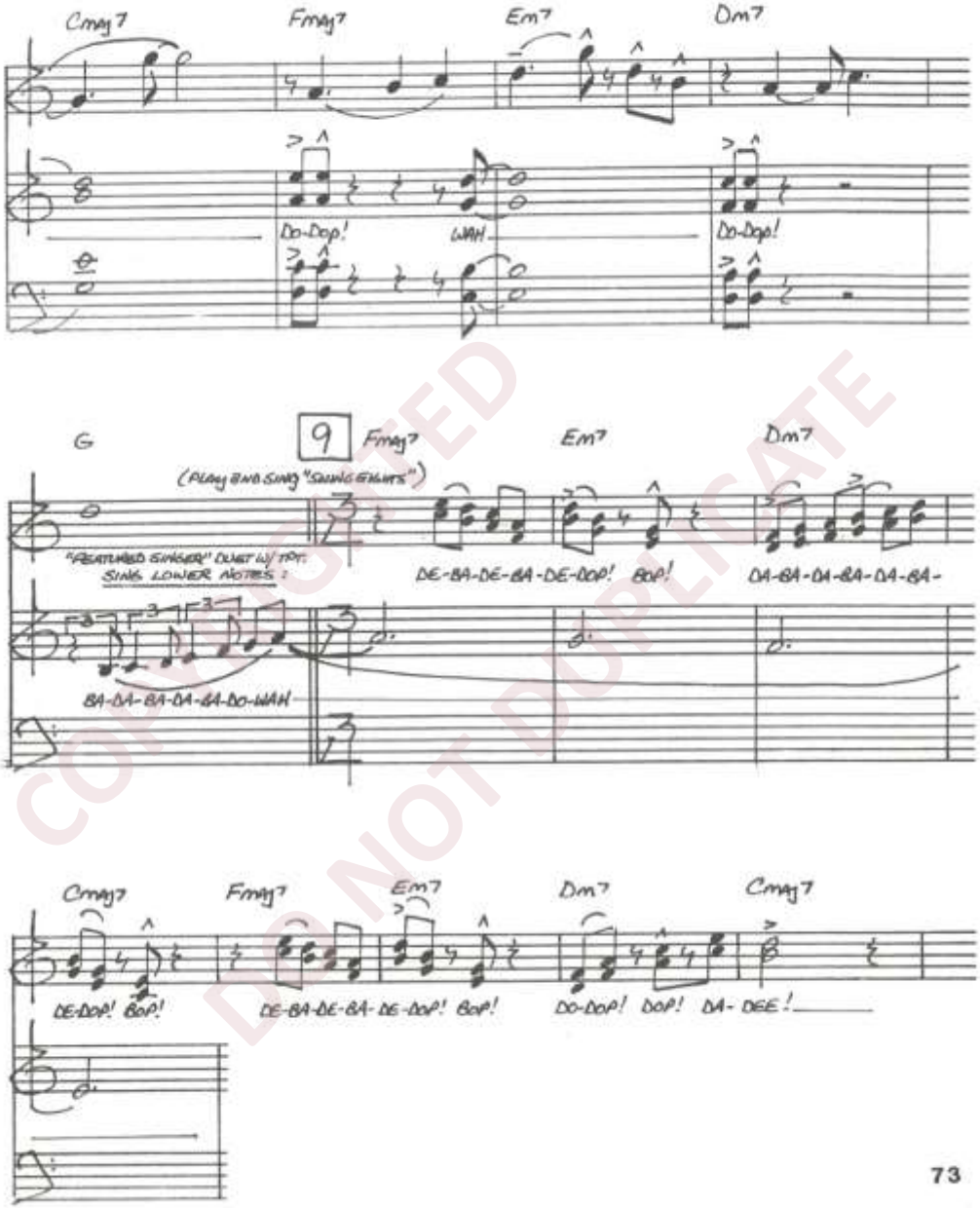

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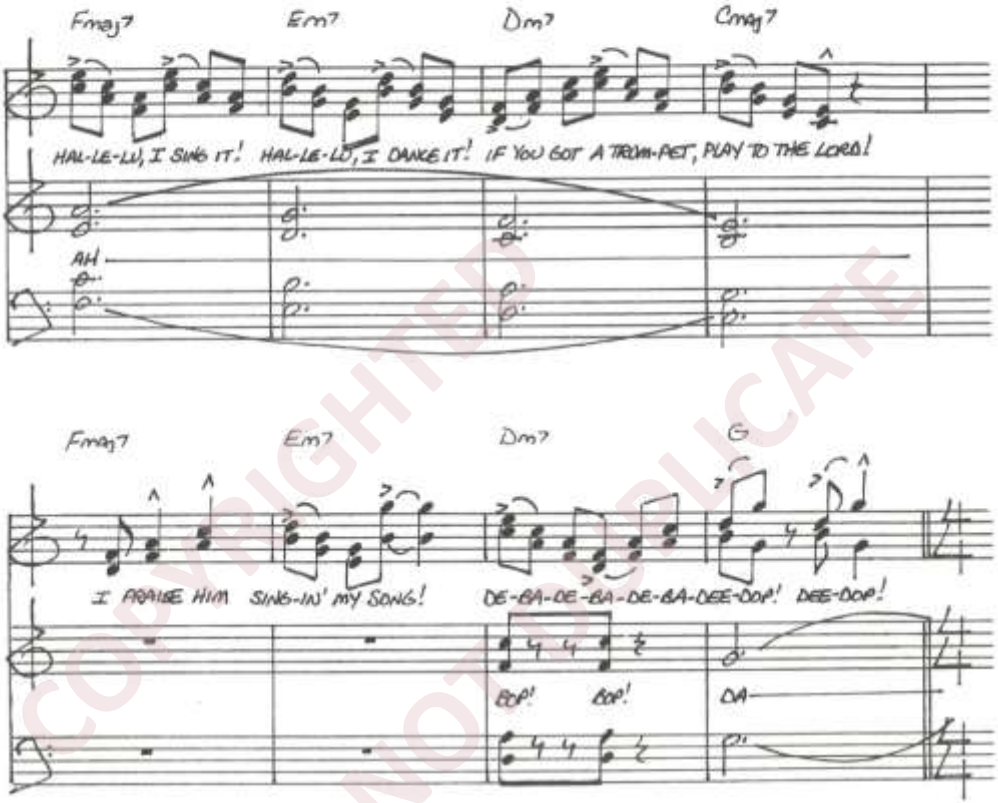

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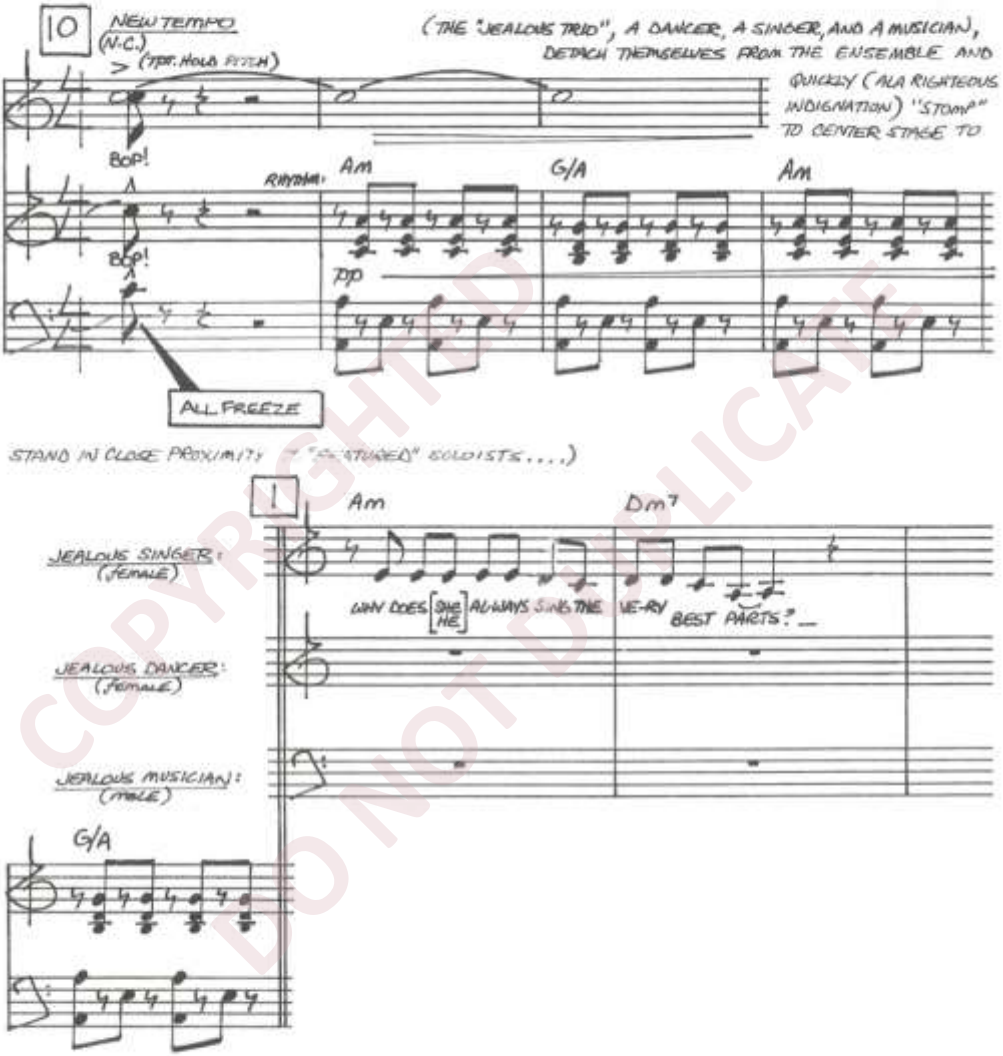
"The Jealousy Trio"

Words & Music by MIMI RIBBLE



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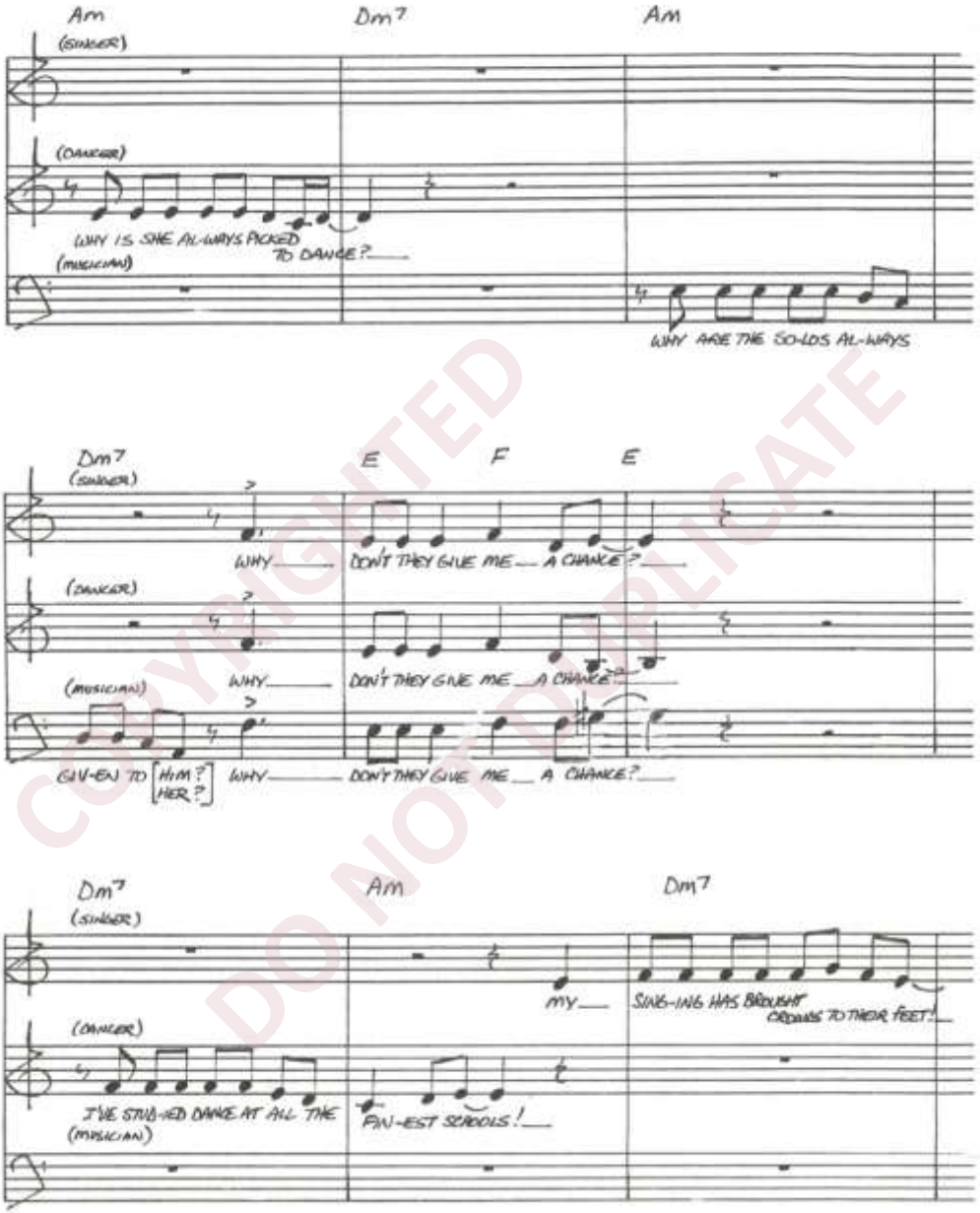

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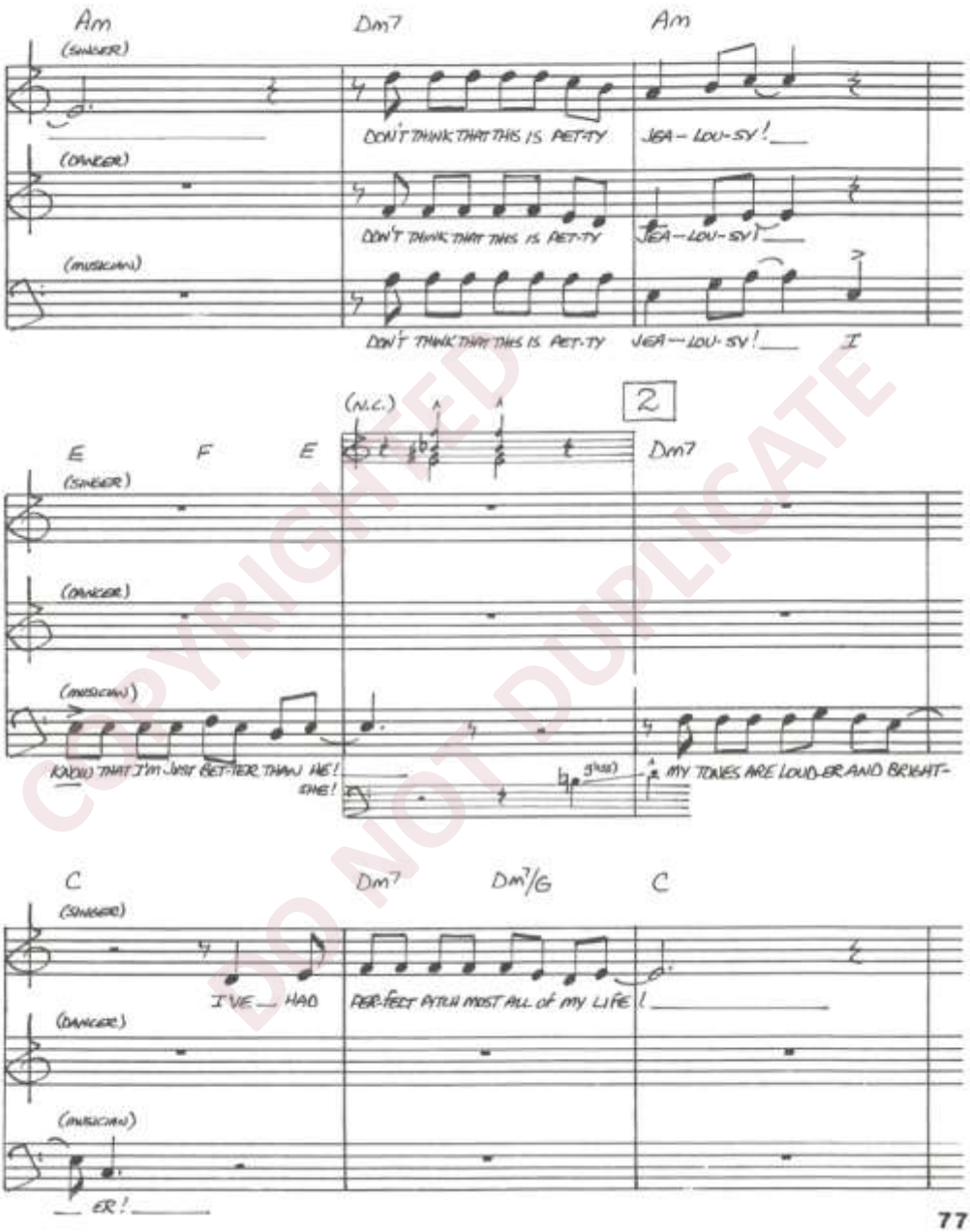

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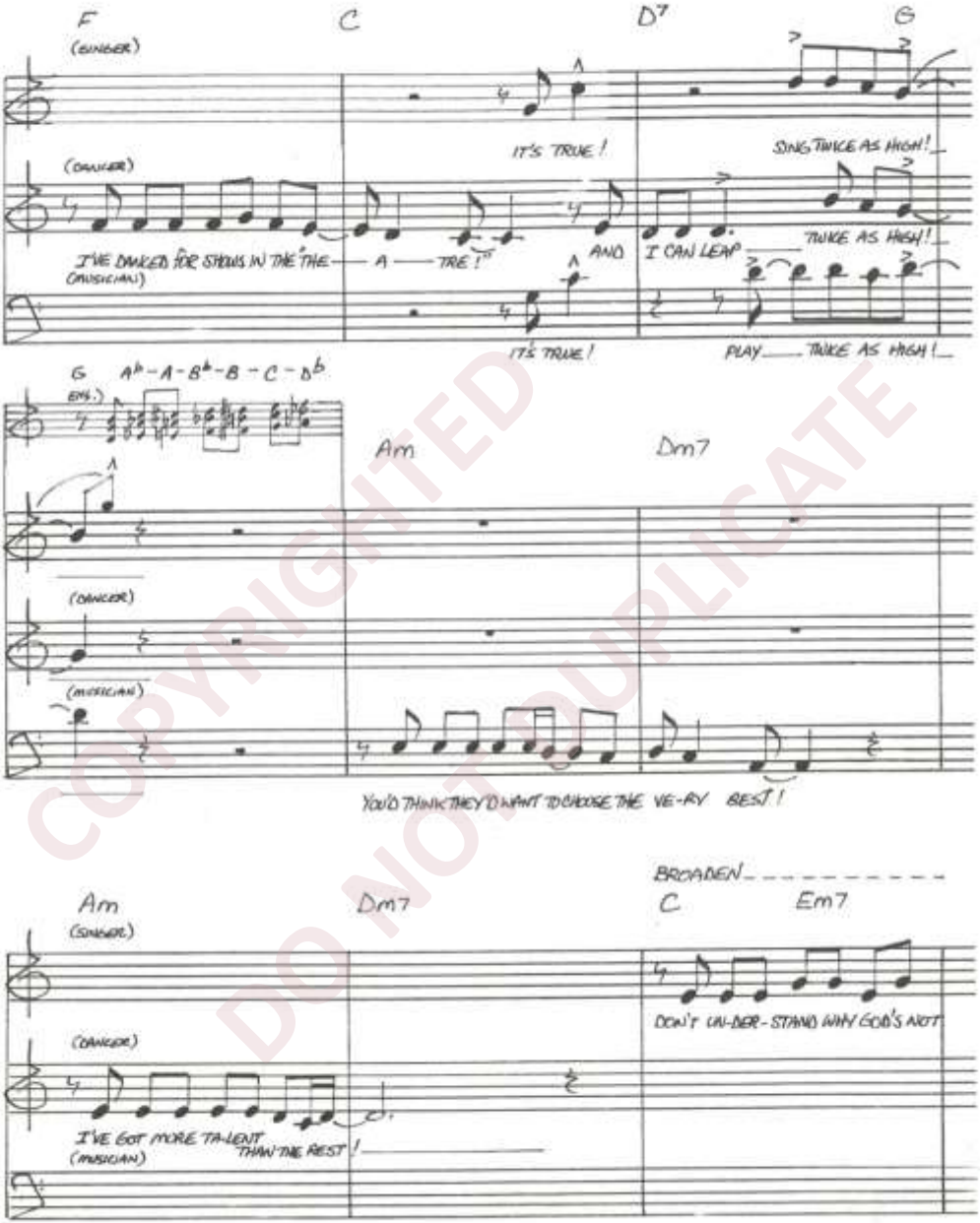

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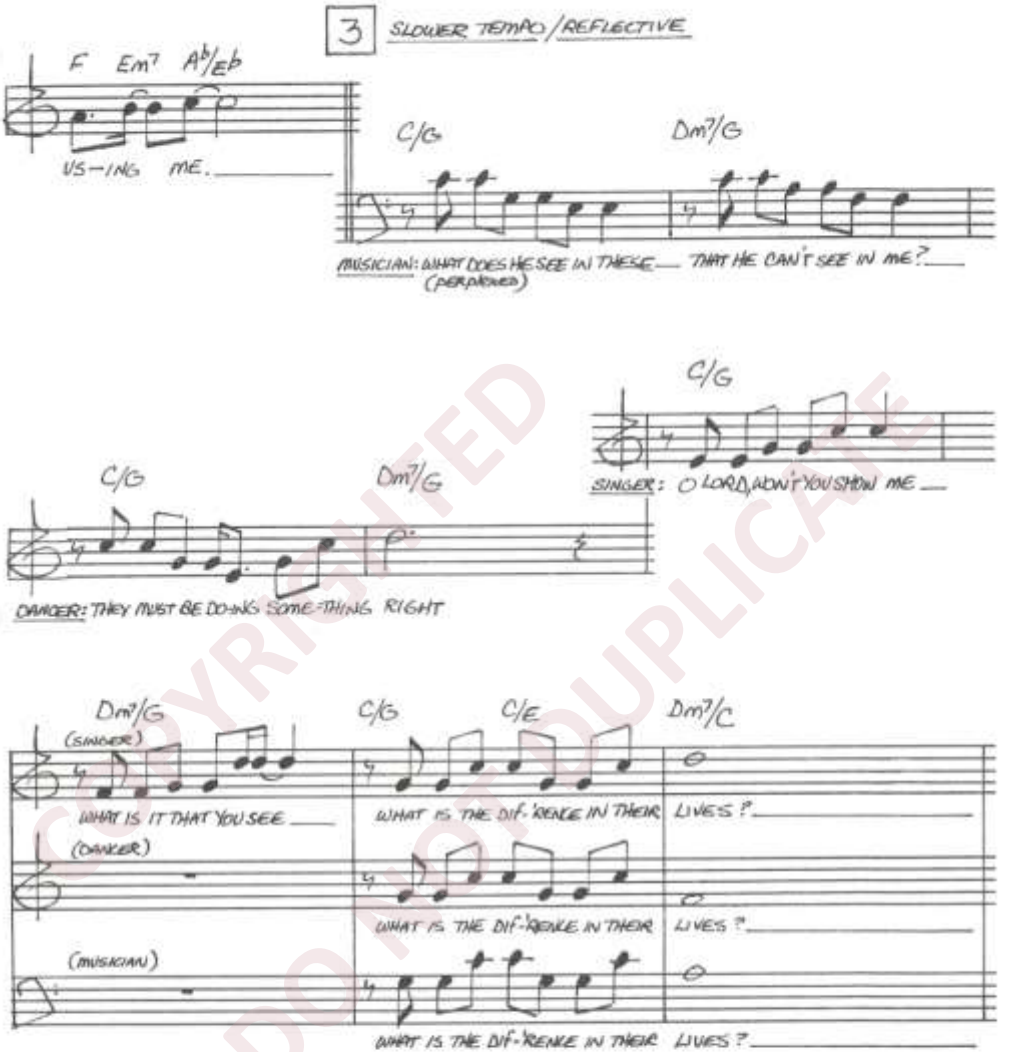

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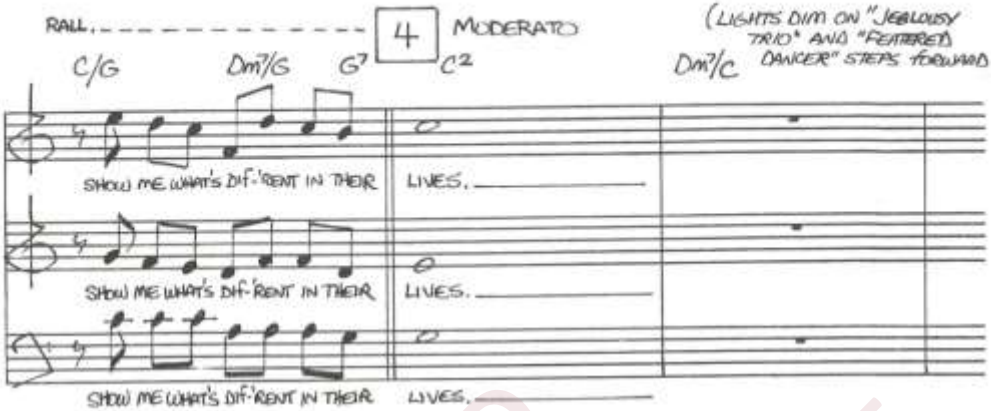
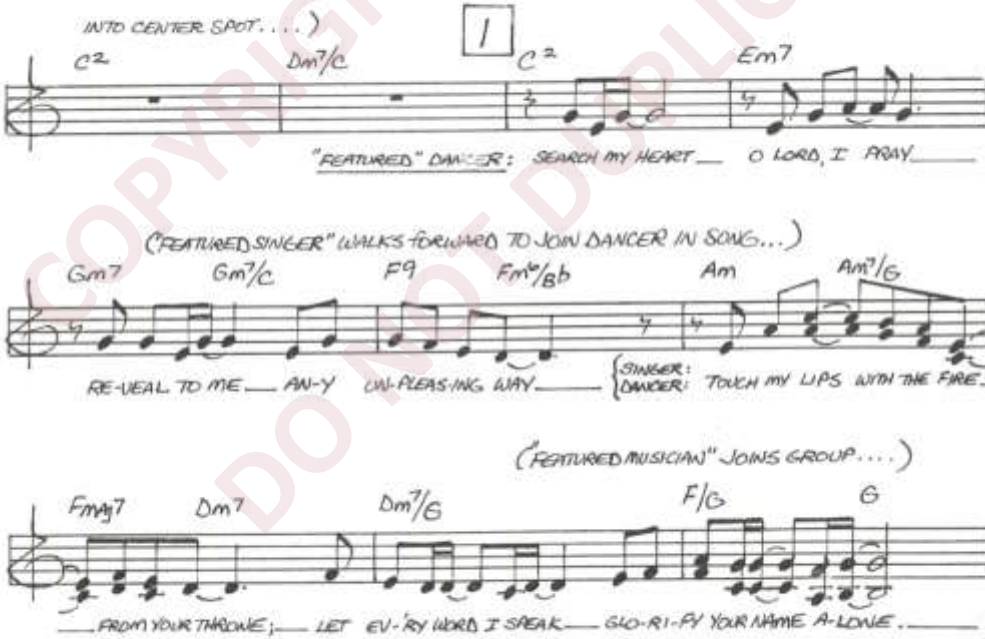


"Search My Heart"

Words & Music by MIMI RIBBLE
Additional material by DAVID HOLSINGER



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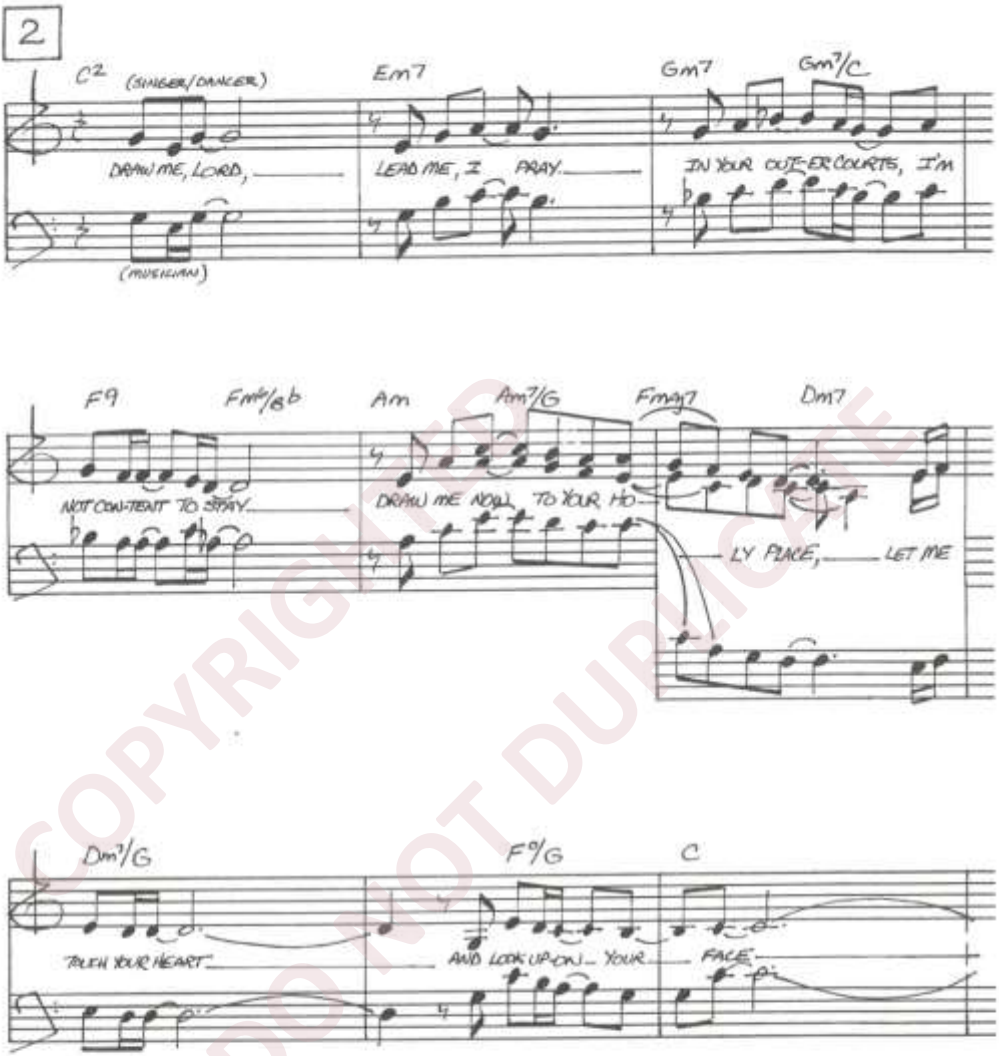

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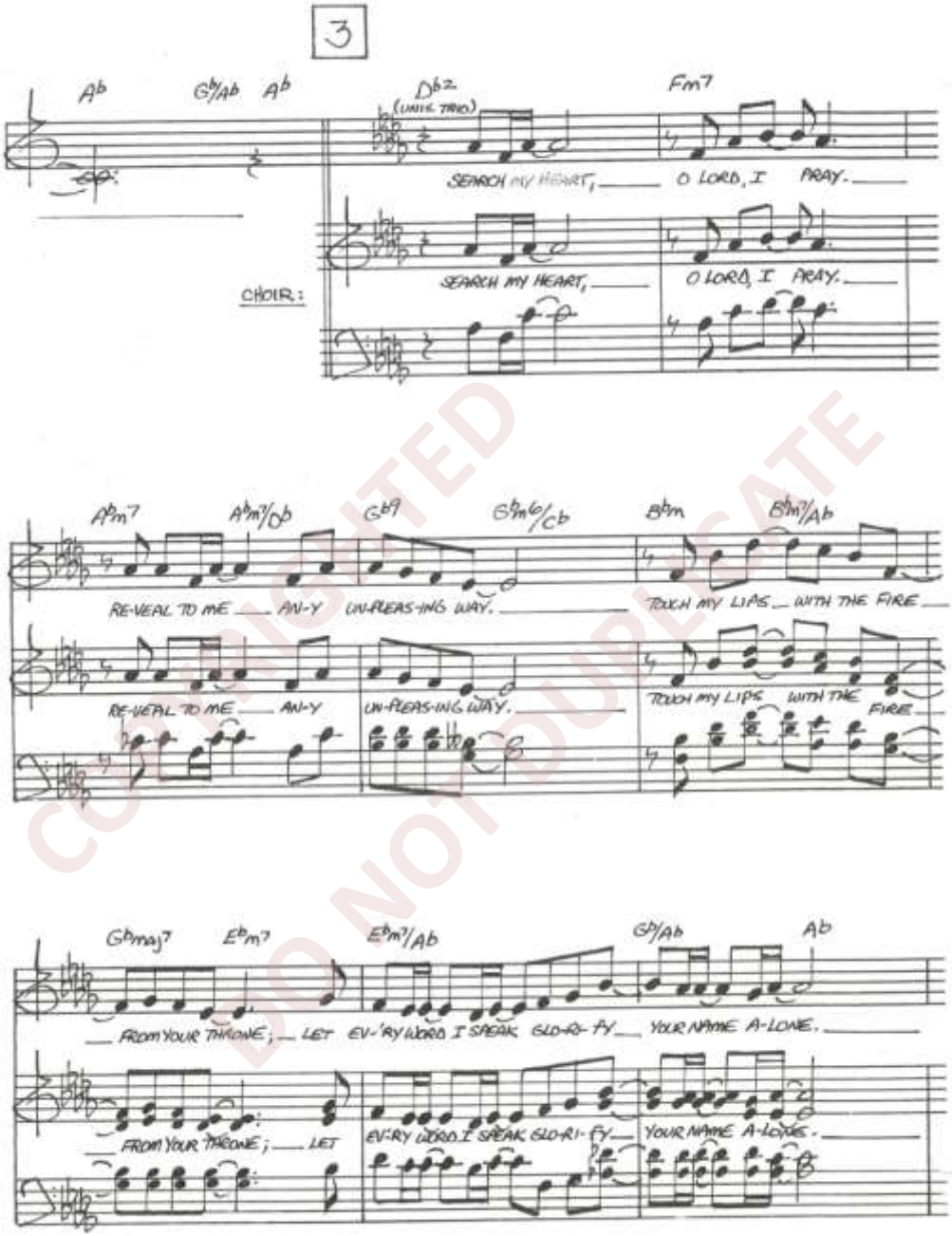

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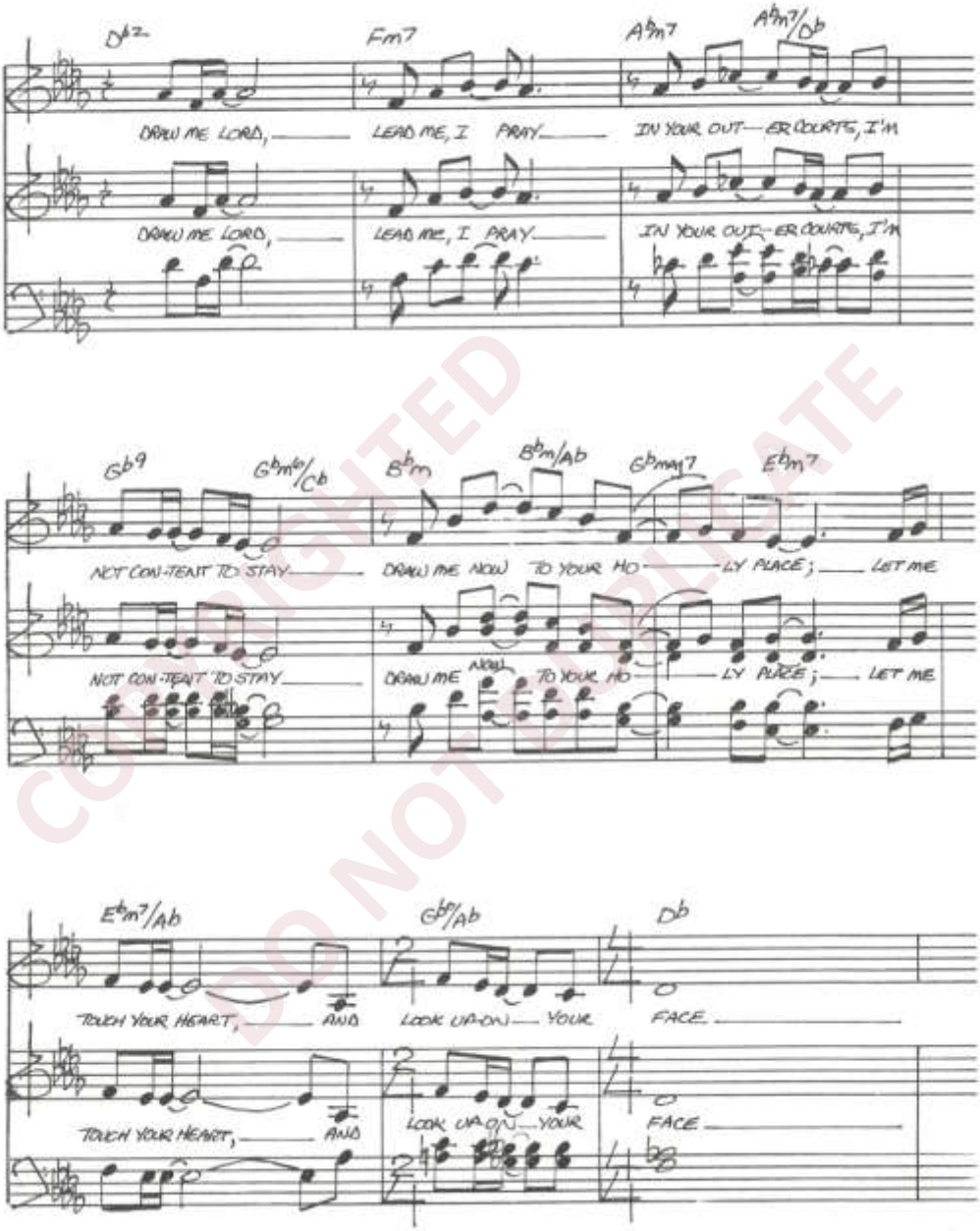

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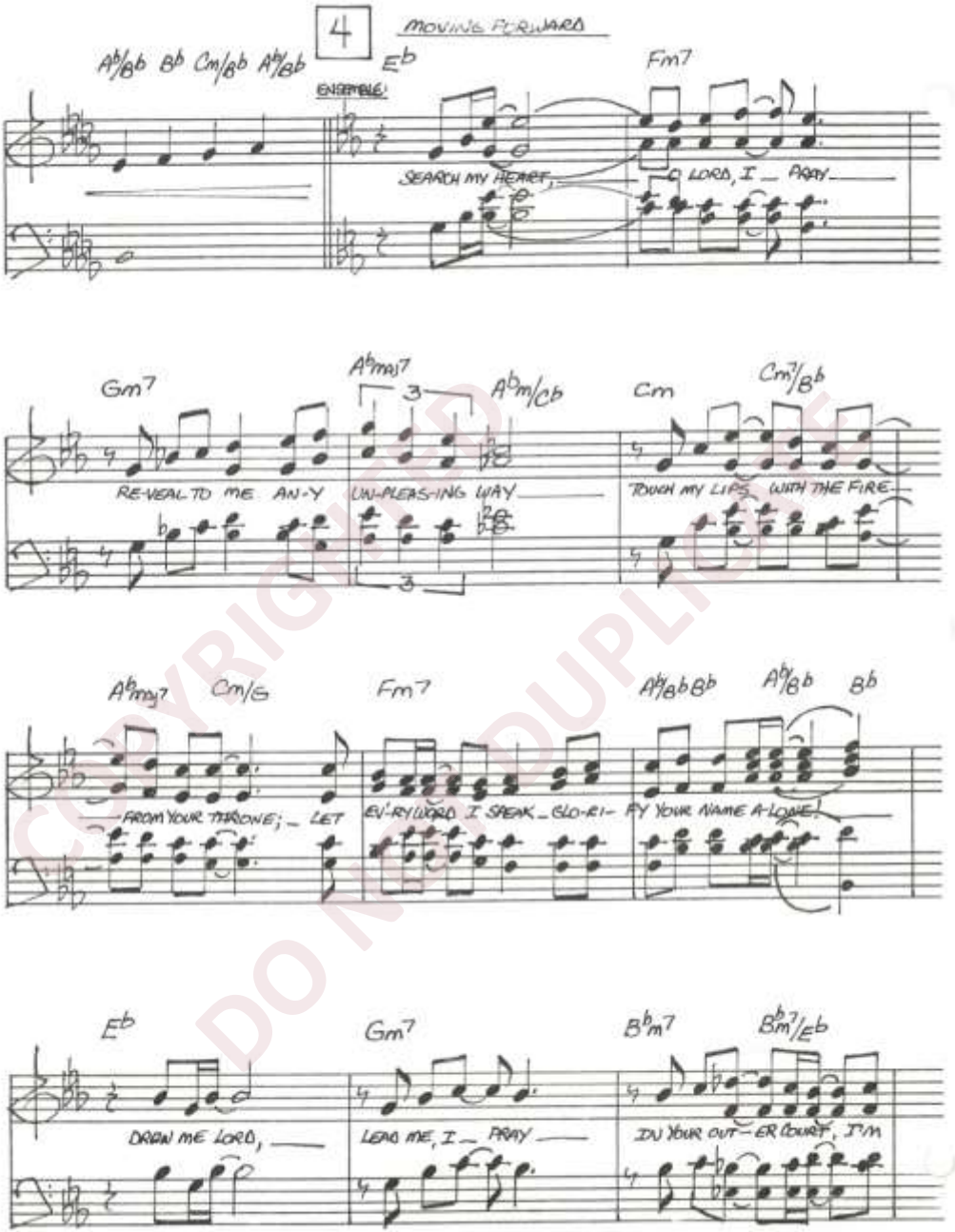

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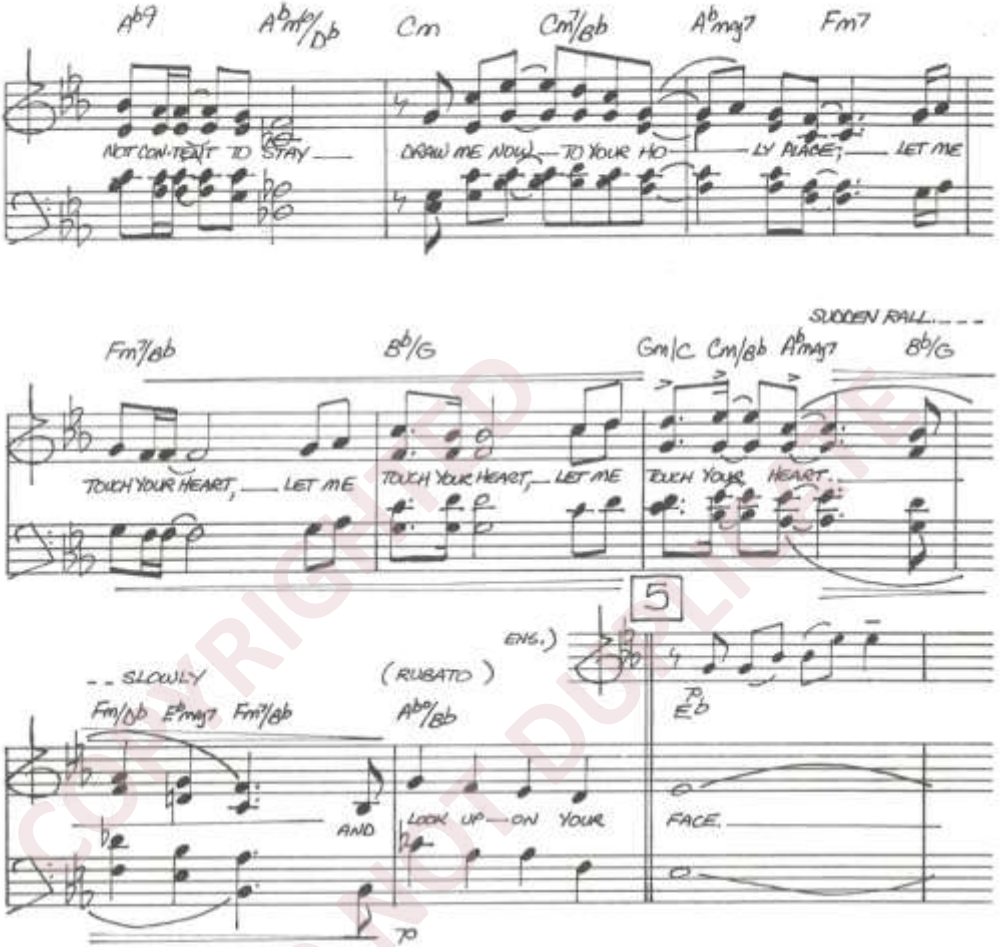

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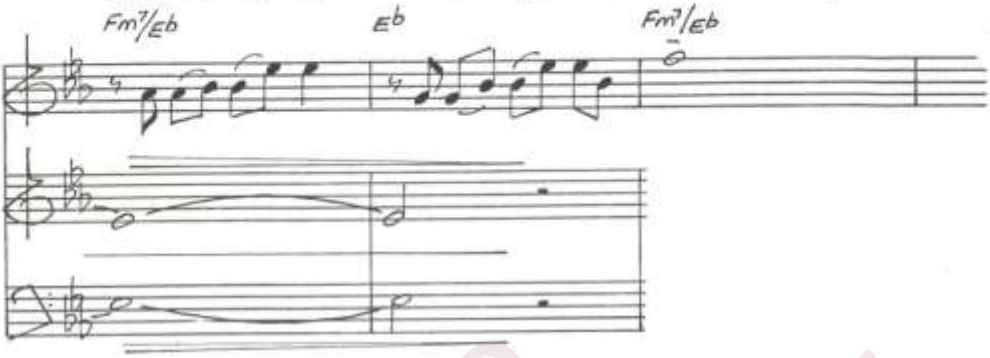
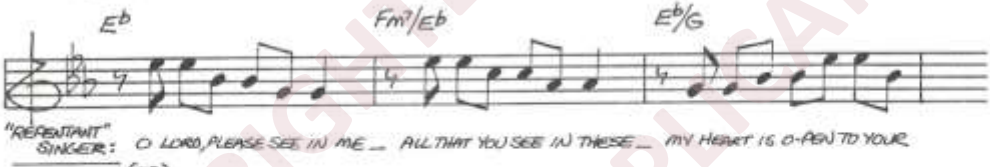
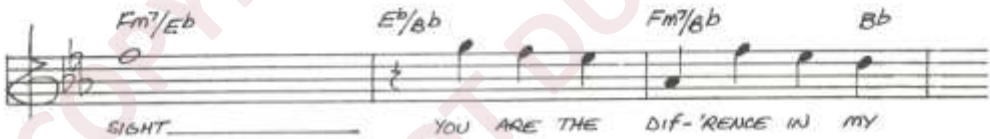
(LIGHTS SLOWLY FADE TO CENTERSTAGE. SPOT UP ON "JEALOUS SINGER", SINGLED OUT, LOOKING TO HEAVEN, BROKEN IN COUNTENANCE,

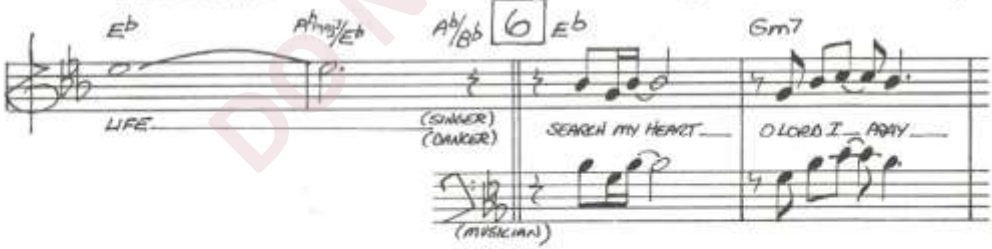


OBVIOUSLY REPENTANT OF HER JEALOUSY, SHE SINGS UNTO THE LORD....)





(THE SINGER IS JOINED IN THE CIRCLE OF LIGHT BY BOTH THE "JEALOUS" DANCER AND MUSICIAN. BROKEN BEFORE THE LORD, THEY SING TOGETHER...)



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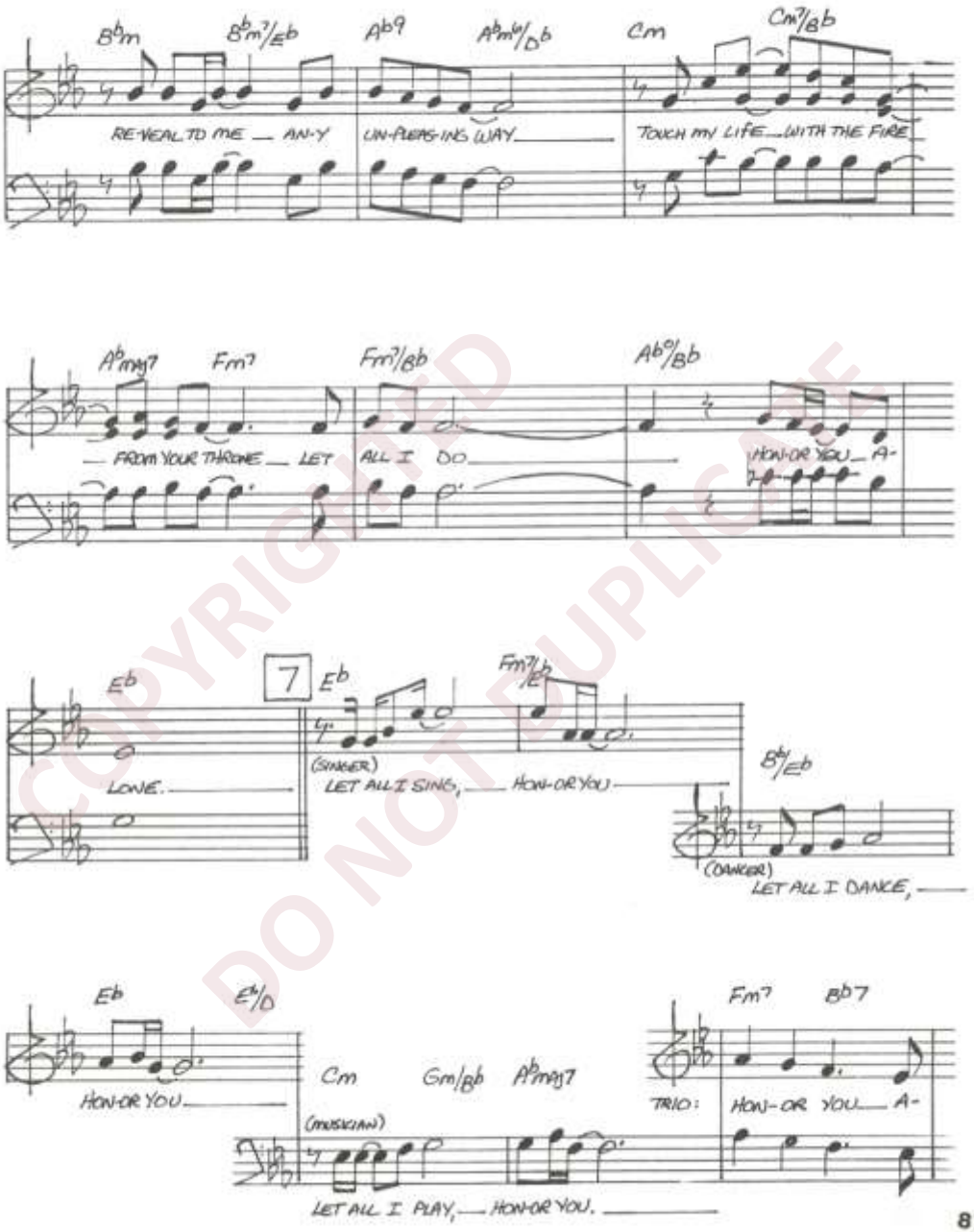

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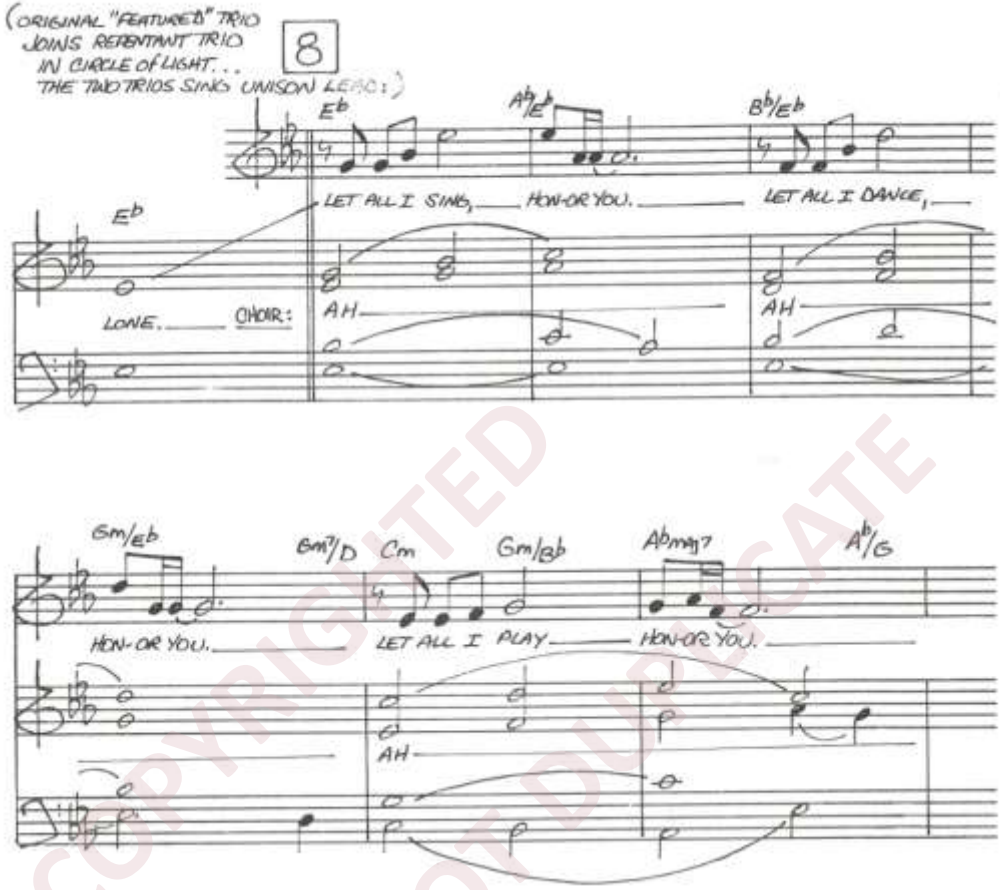

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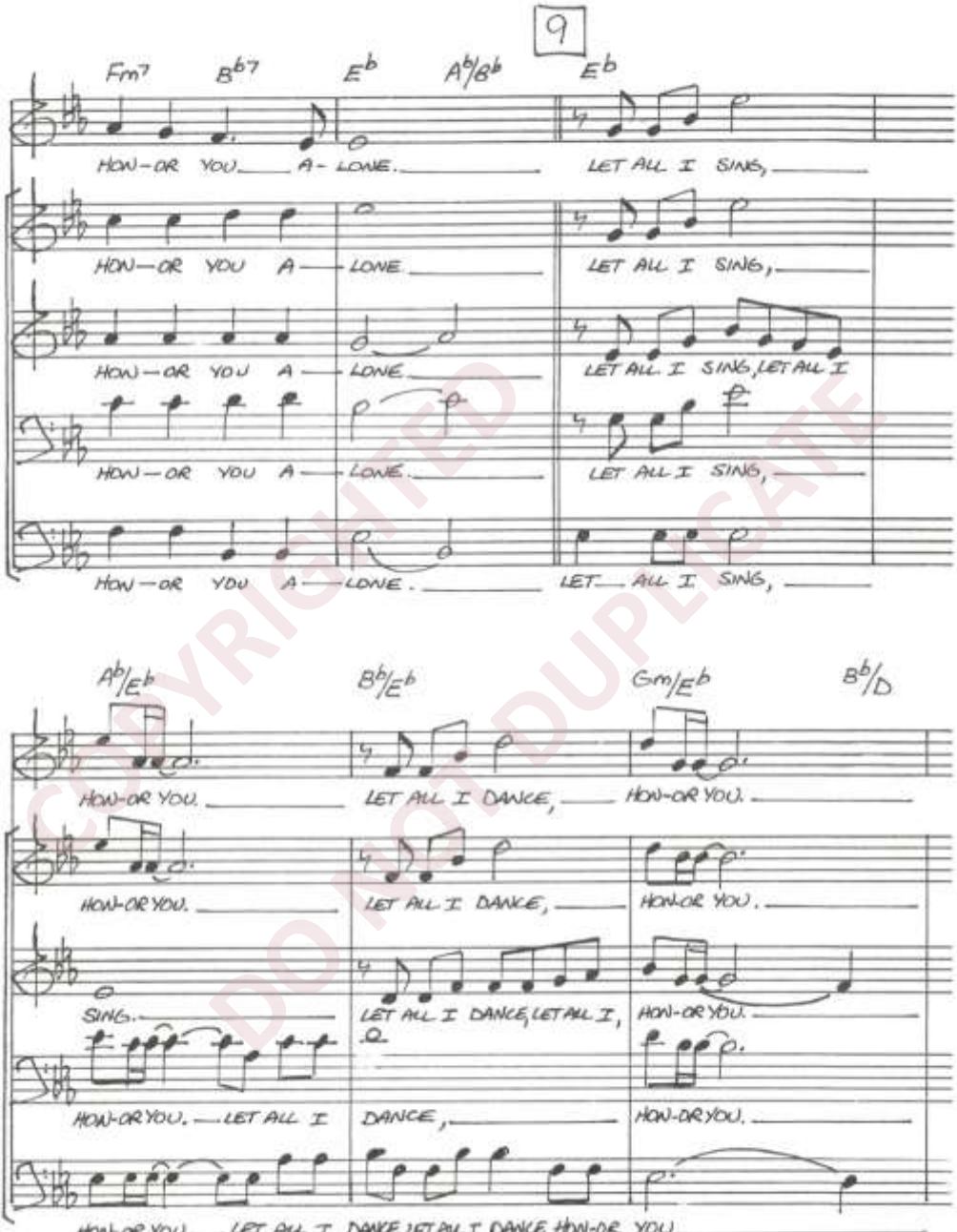

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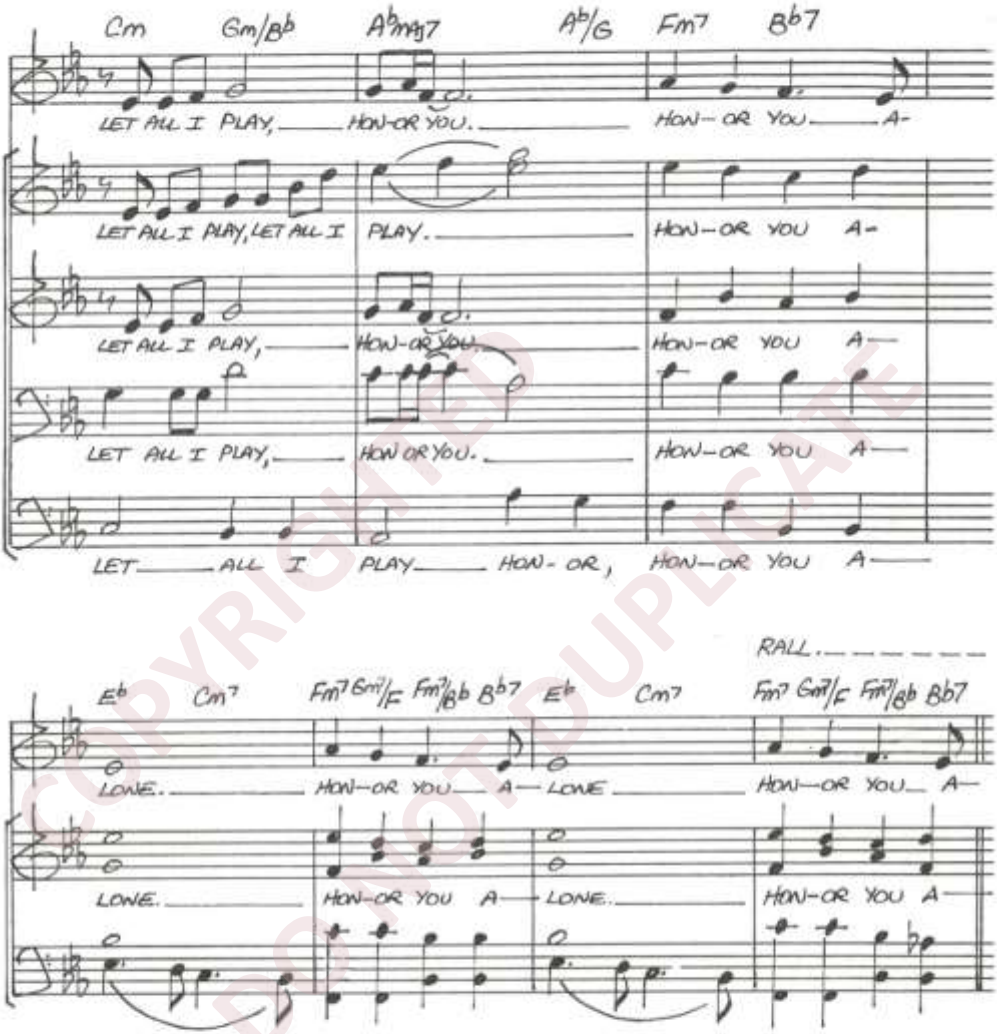

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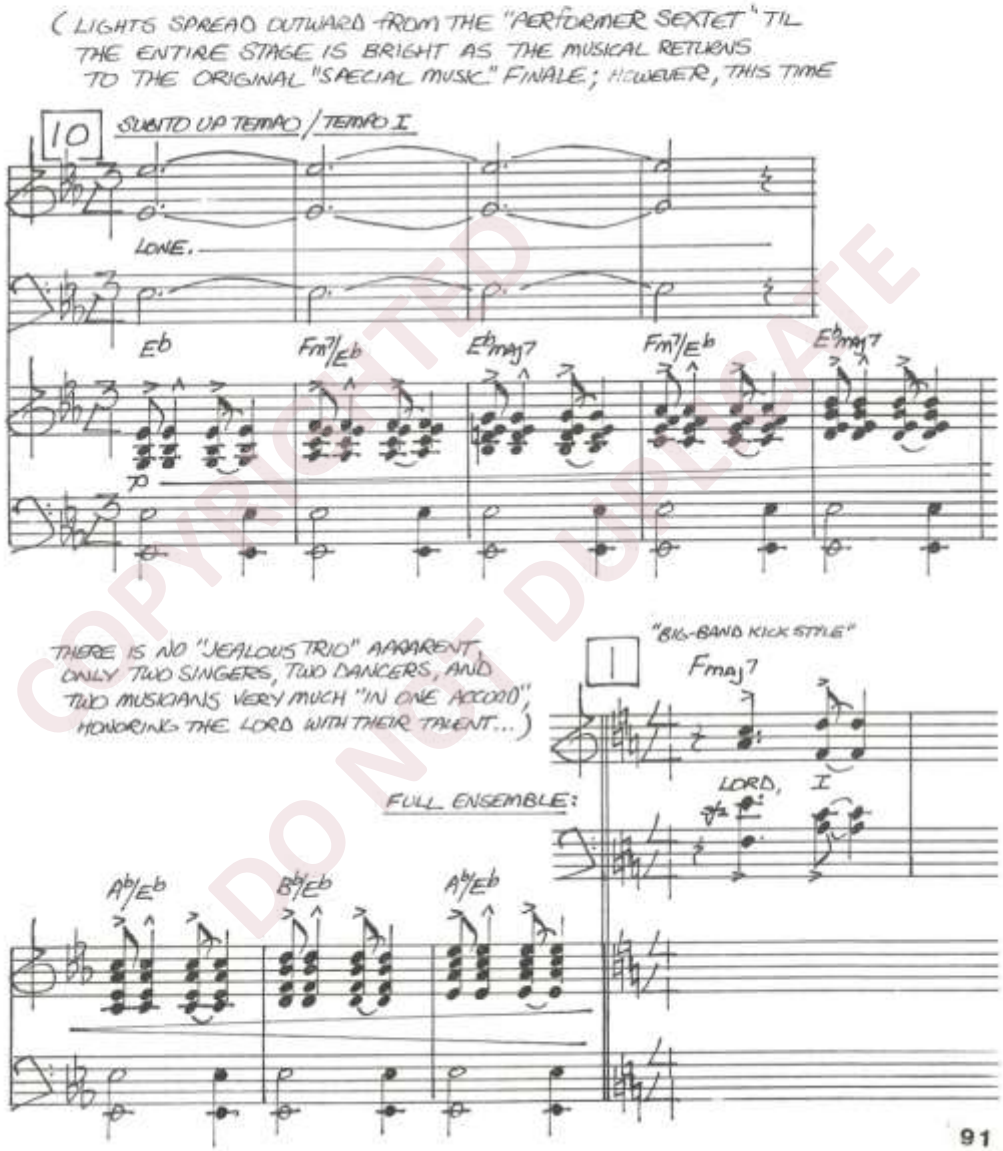
"Offer Up a Song of Praise" - Reprise



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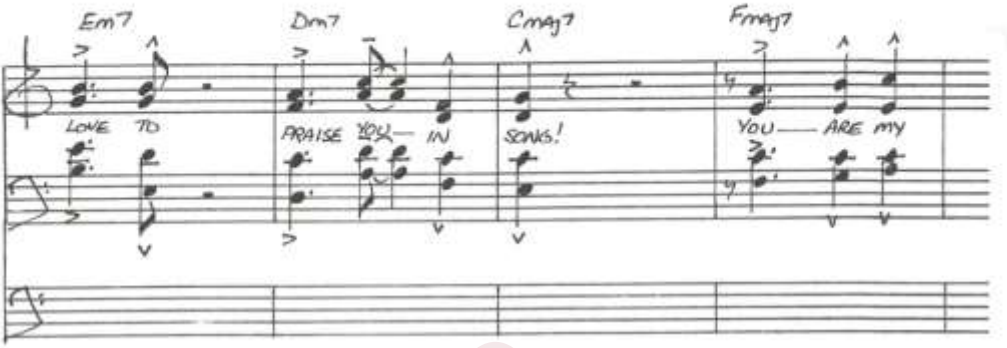

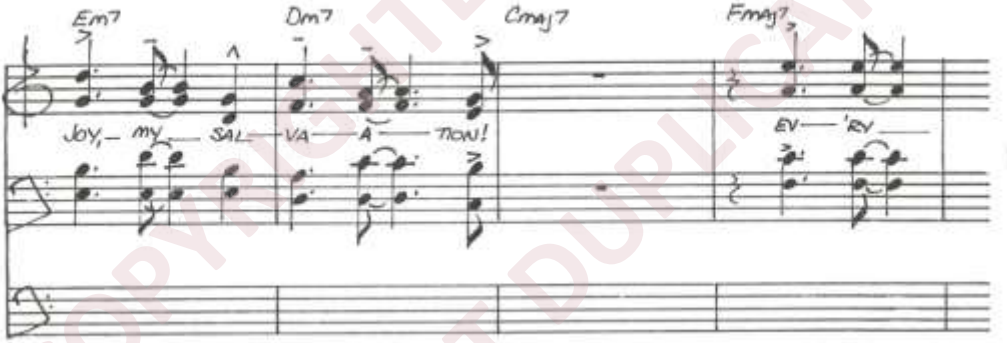

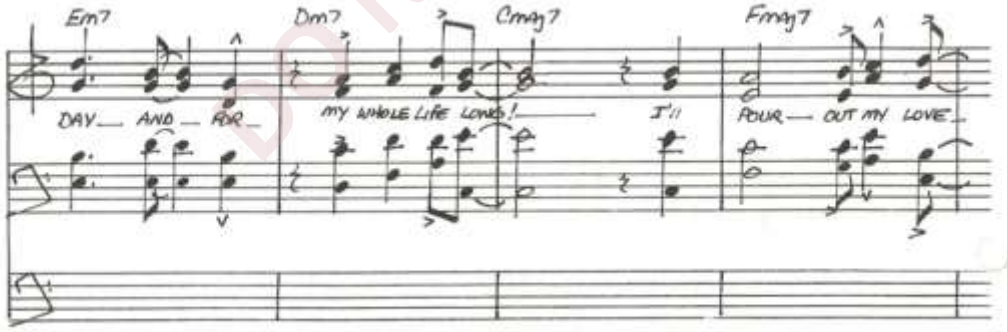

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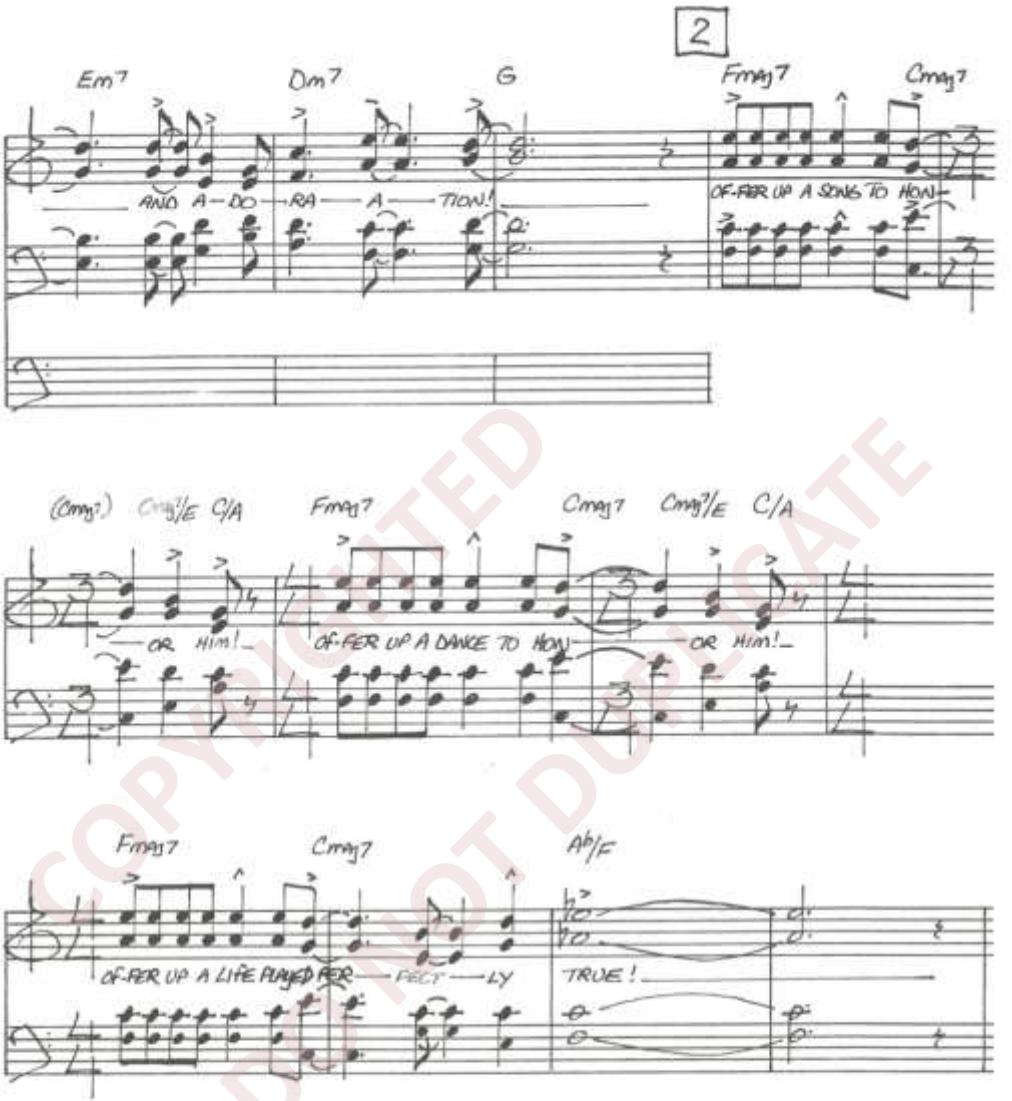

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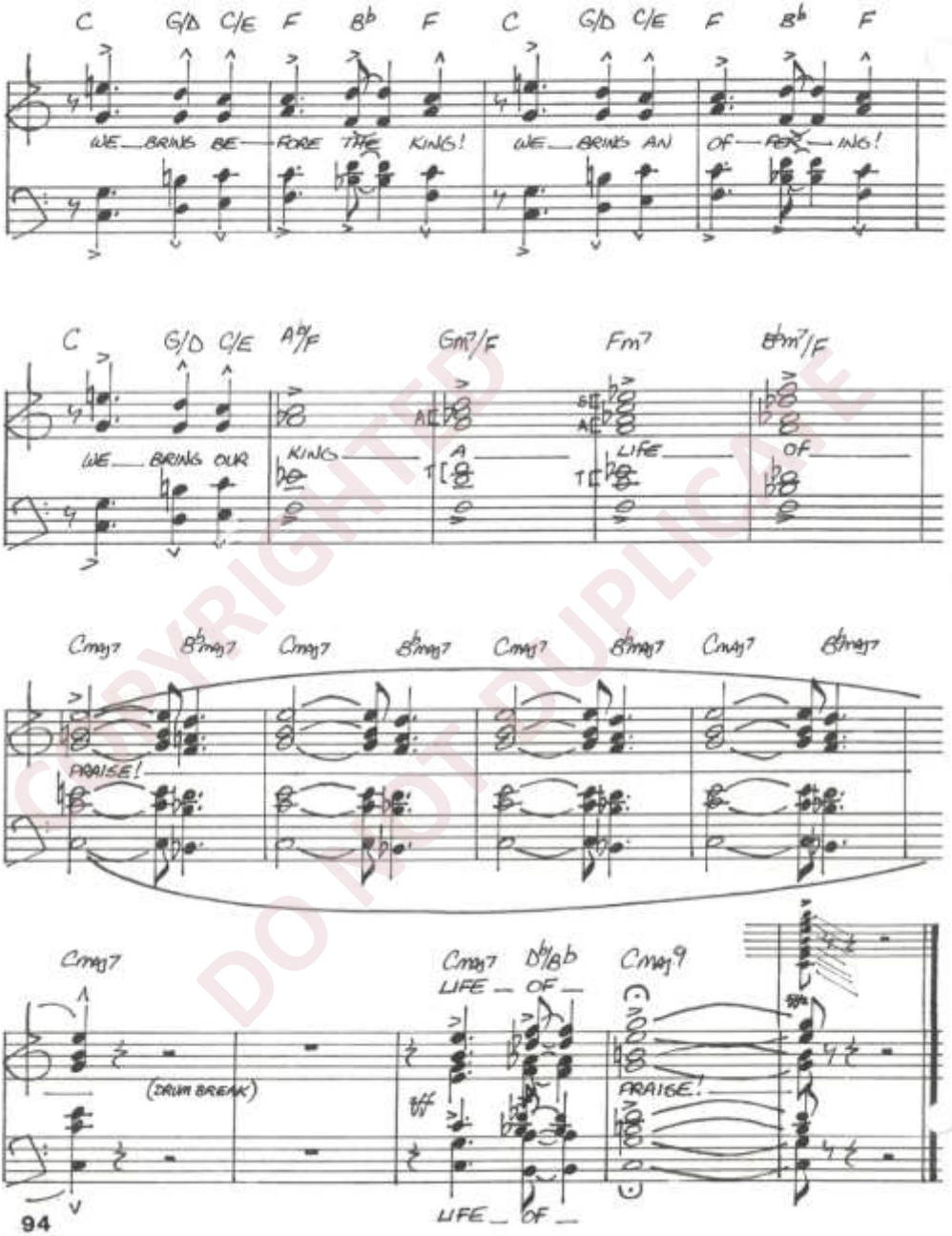

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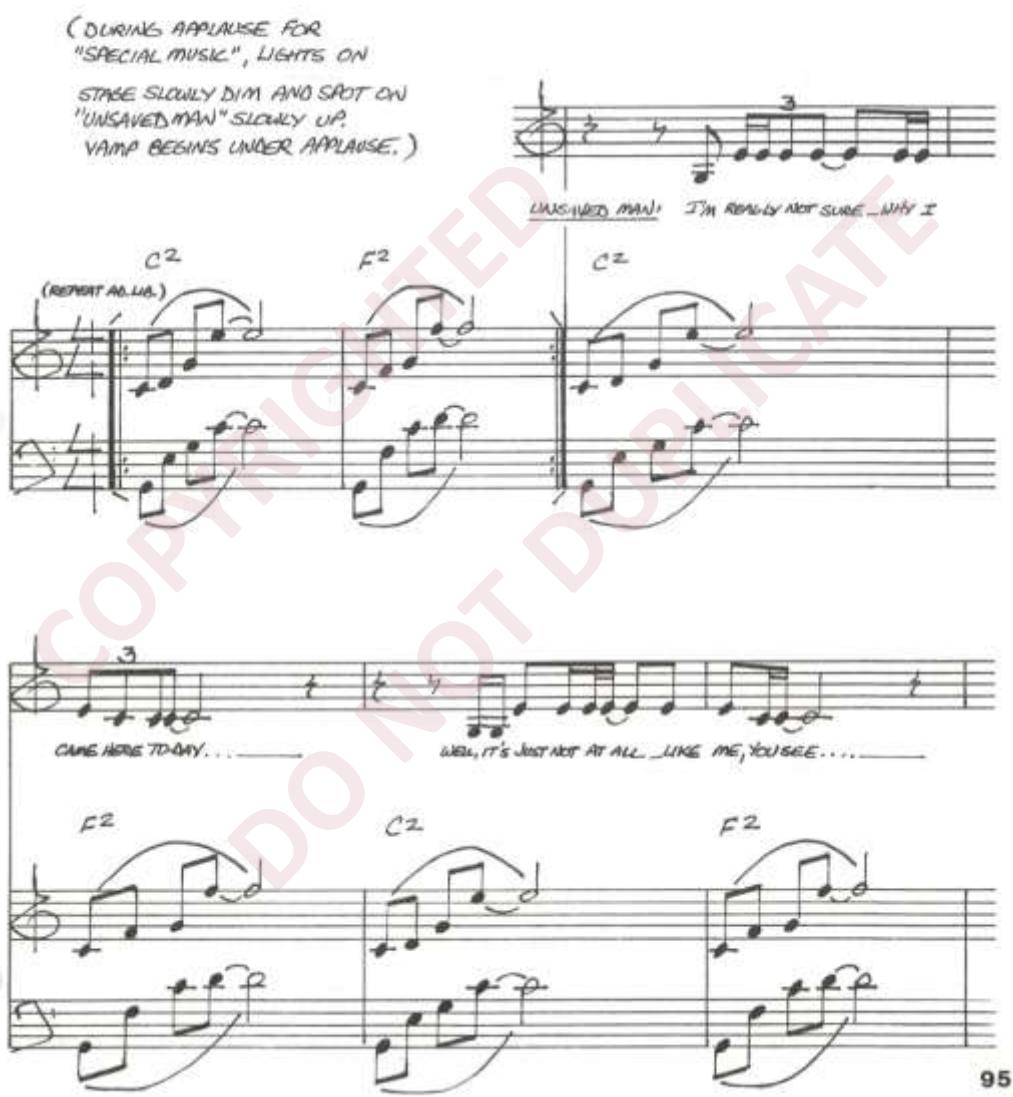
"Soliloquy #1"

Adapted from words & music by ROD SCHUMACHER



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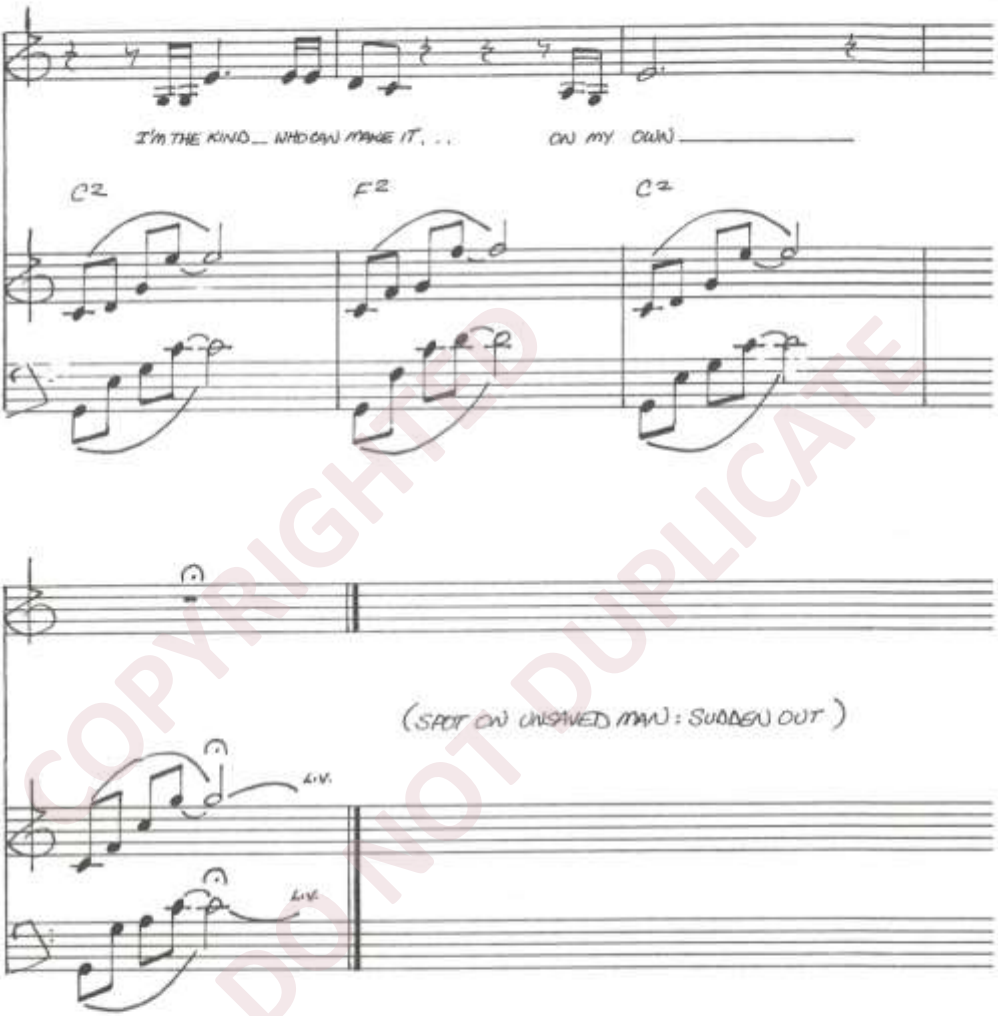

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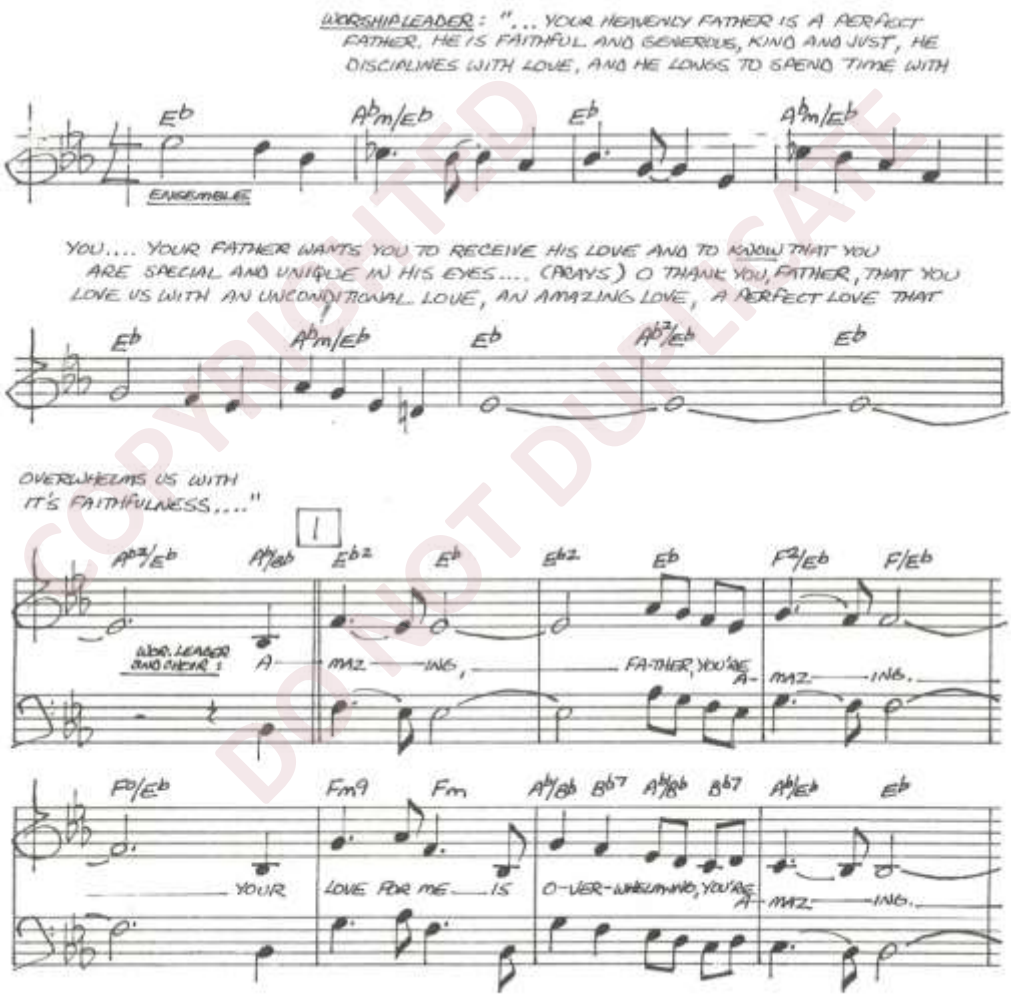
"EVERY SUNDAY" / SCENE FIVE

"AMAZING"

Words & Music by RICK MORRISON and AMBER BROWNING



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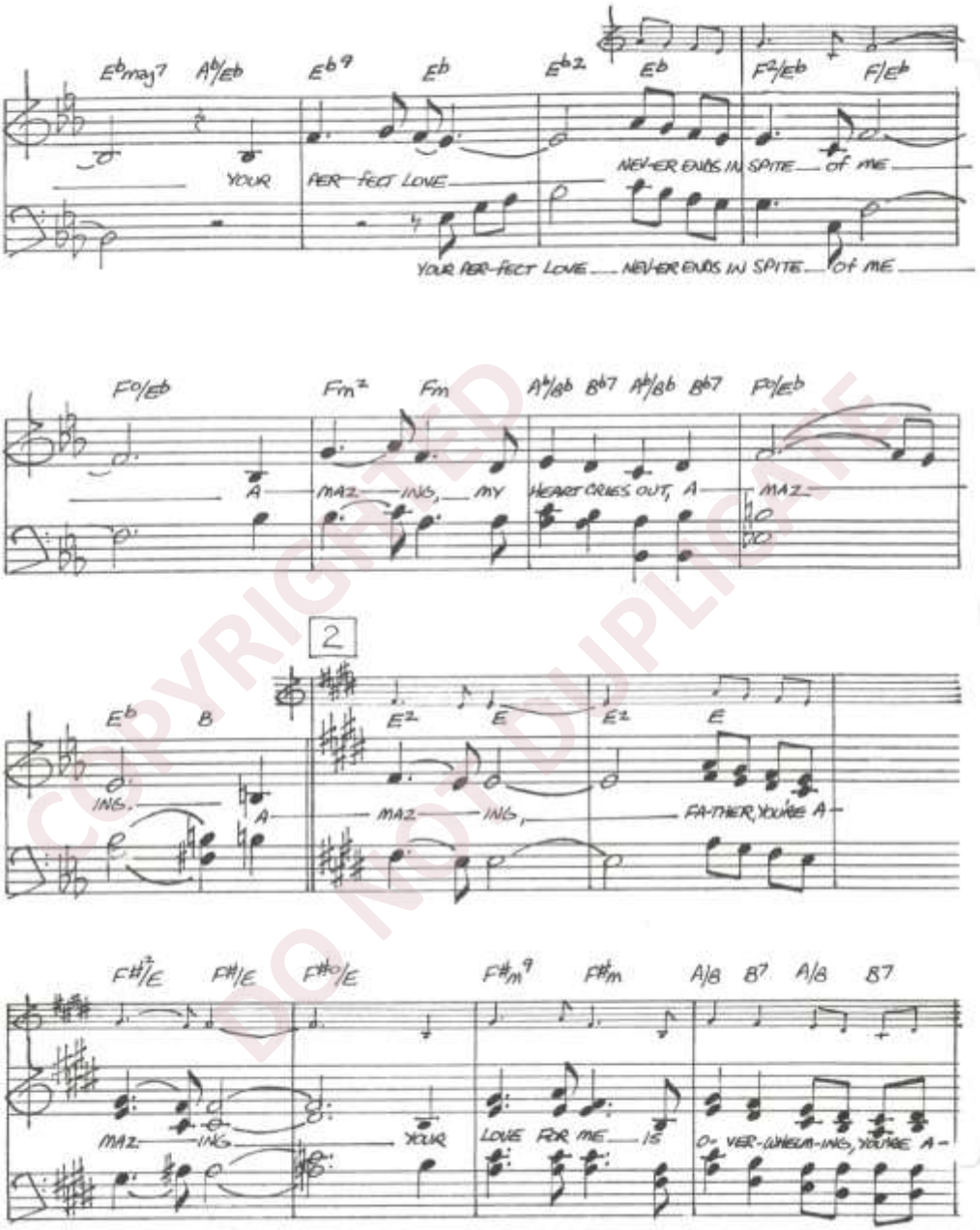

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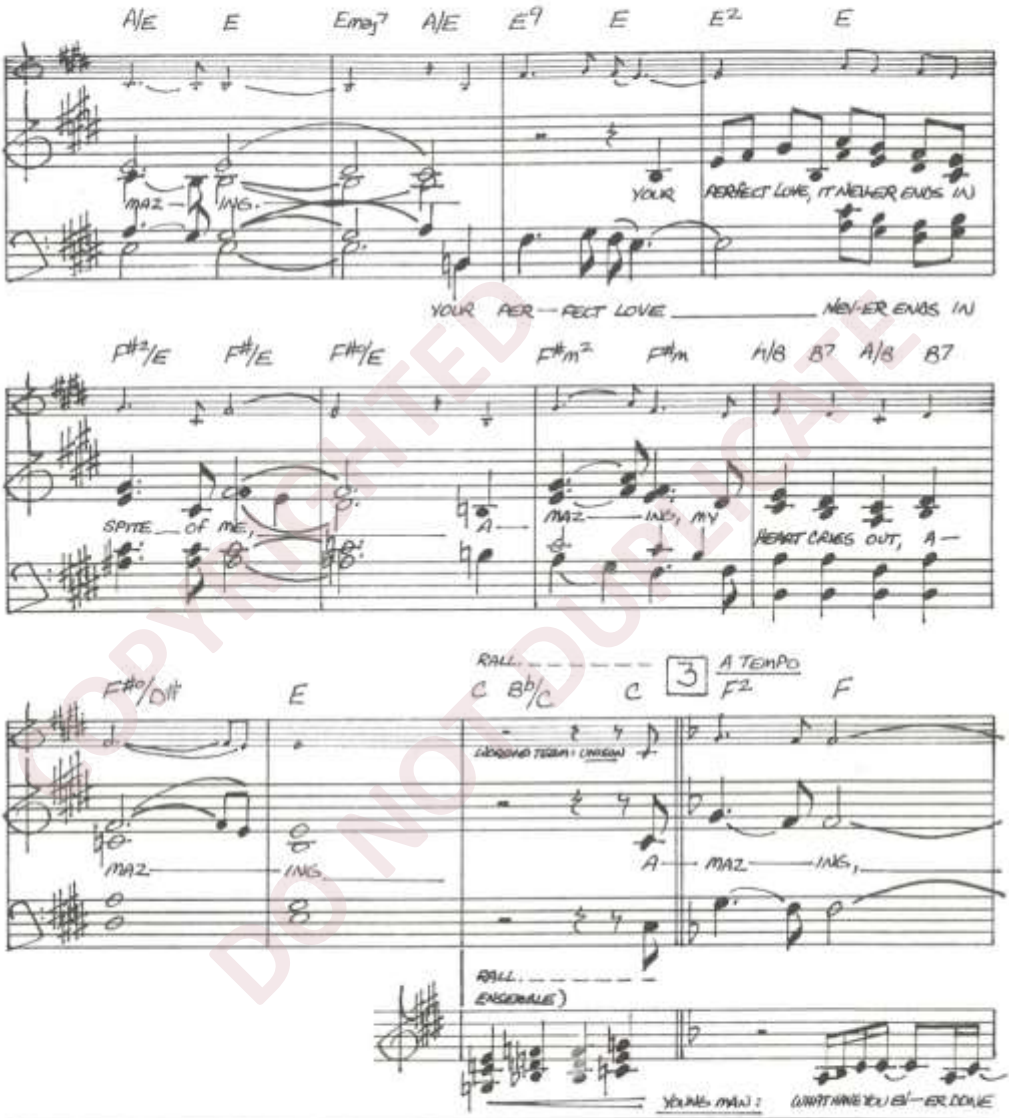

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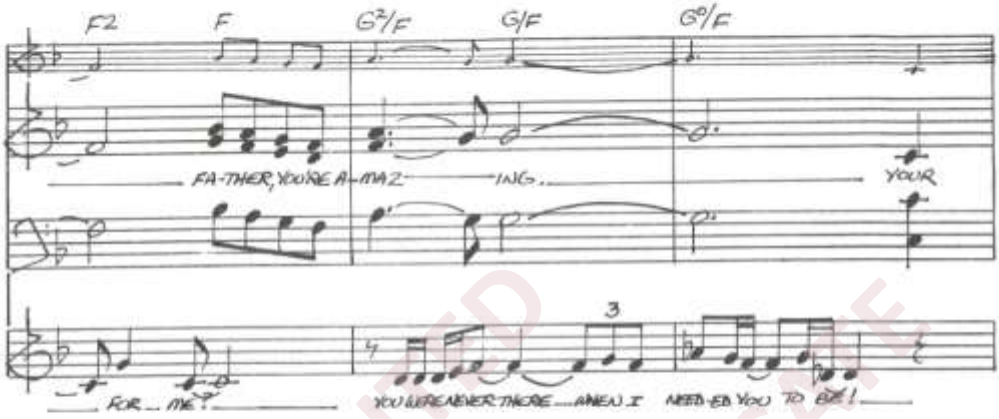

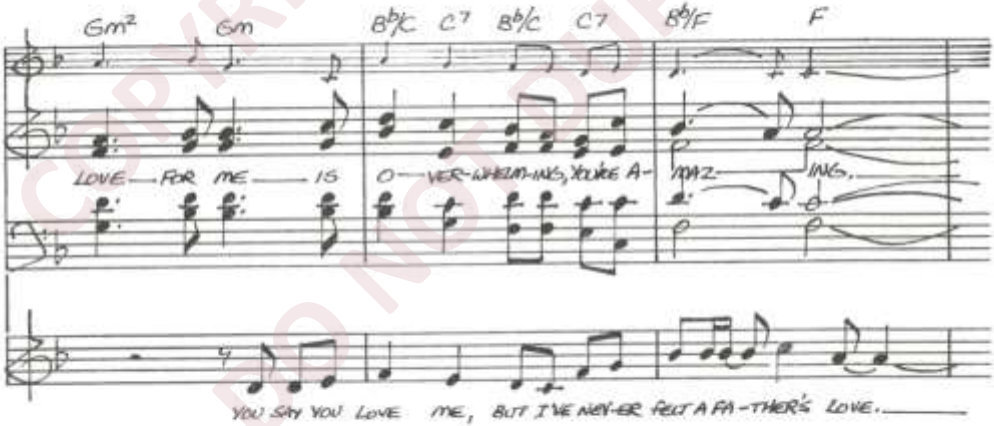

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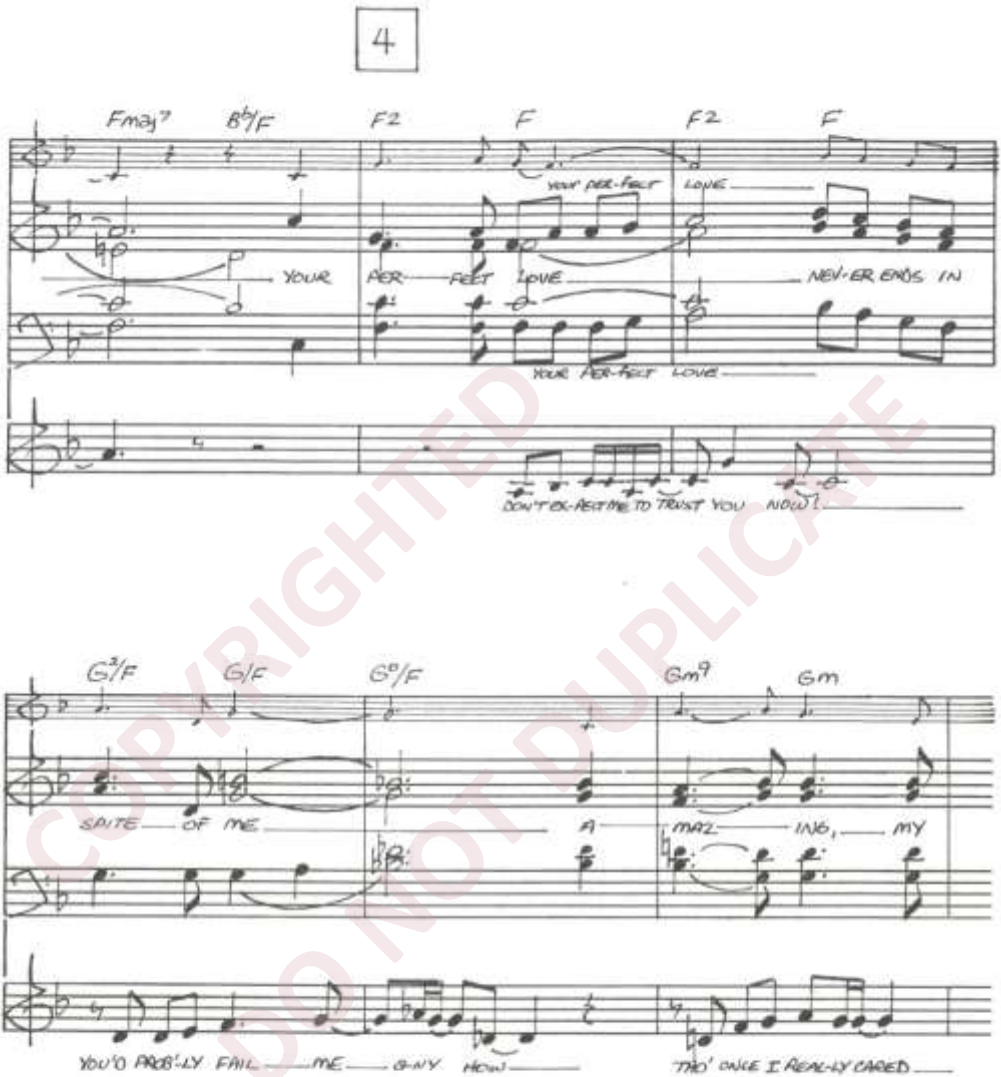

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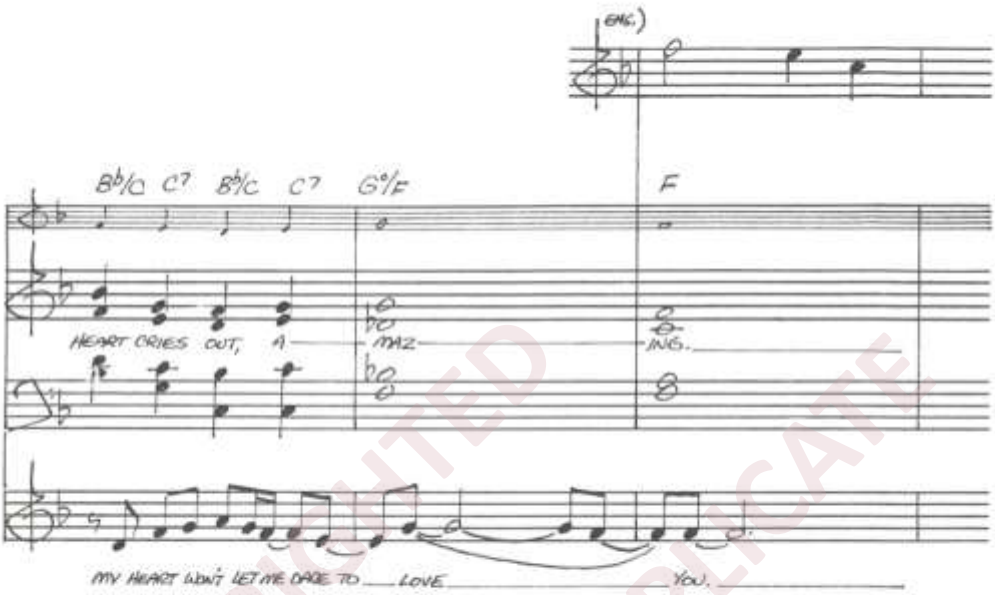
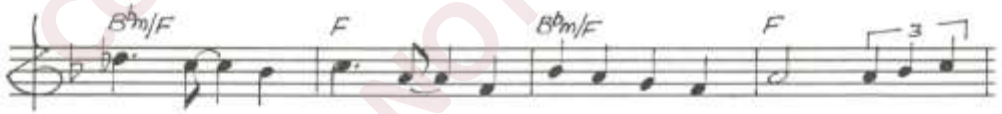


YOUNG MAN (SPOKEN): "AMAZING. . . . (CYNICAL.) OH YEAH, GOD, I'M AMAZED! I'M AMAZED THAT ALL THESE PEOPLE CAN BE SO BLIND. HOW CAN THEY TALK ABOUT



YOUR PERFECT LOVE, YOUR FAITHFULNESS, AND ALL YOUR MERCY WHEN THEY'VE NEVER SEEN IT?!?... AT LEAST, I NEVER HAVE.... THE FATHER-HEART OF GOD?....

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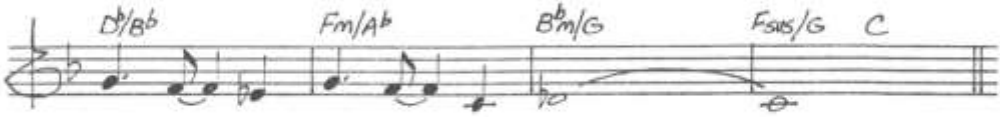
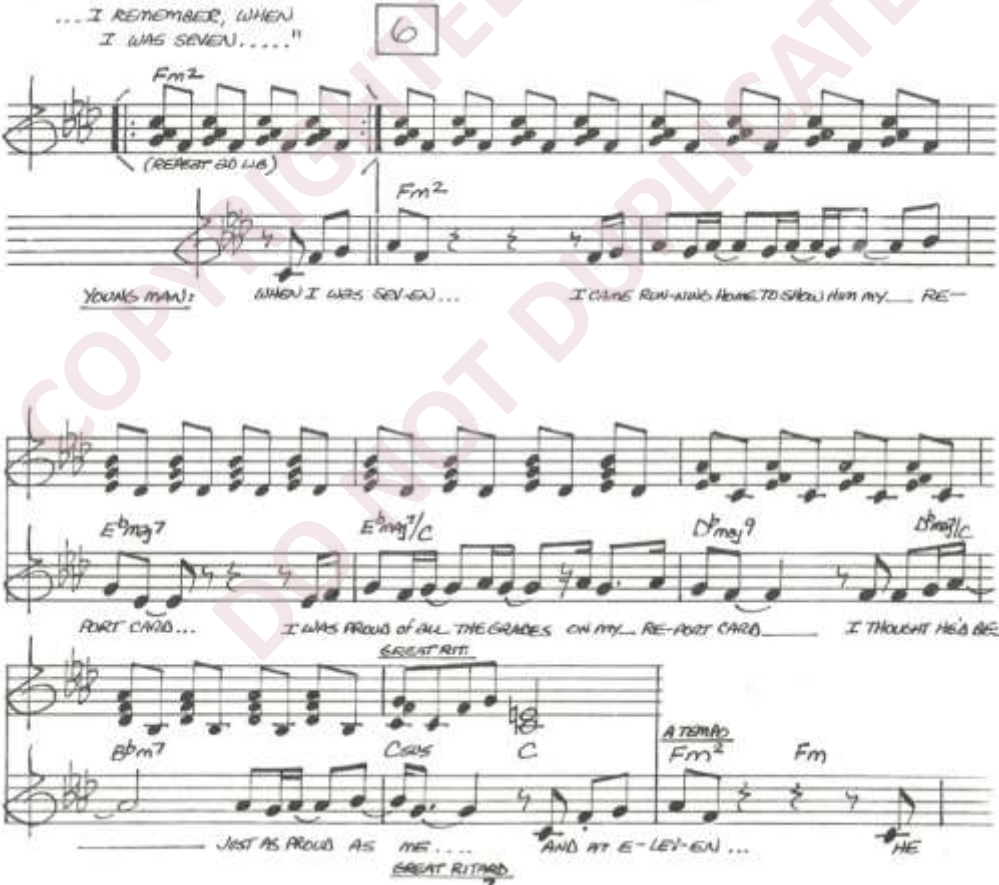
... I'VE NEVER SEEN THAT EITHER .... MY DAD? ... OH, MY DAD HAD A HEART... FOR WORK, HIS SALES, HIS TRENDS AND PROMOTIONS, HIS PROFIT MARGINS,



"Broken Promises and Shattered Dreams"

Words & Music by MIMI RIBBLE

HIS BUSINESS CRONIES! .... OH YEAH, HE HAD A HEART... (QUIETER, SADLY).. THERE JUST NEVER SEEM TO BE ENOUGH ROOM LEFT OVER FOR ME...
... I REMEMBER, WHEN I WAS SEVEN....."



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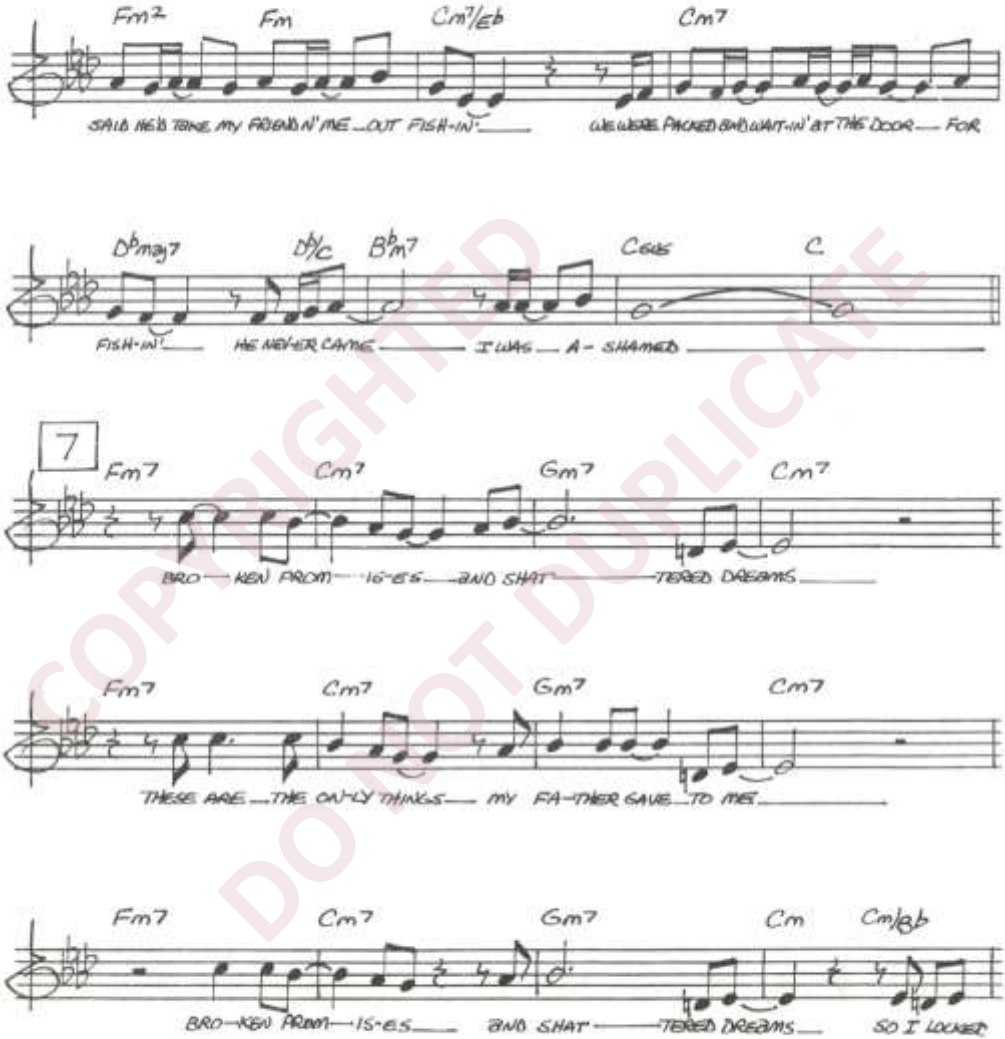

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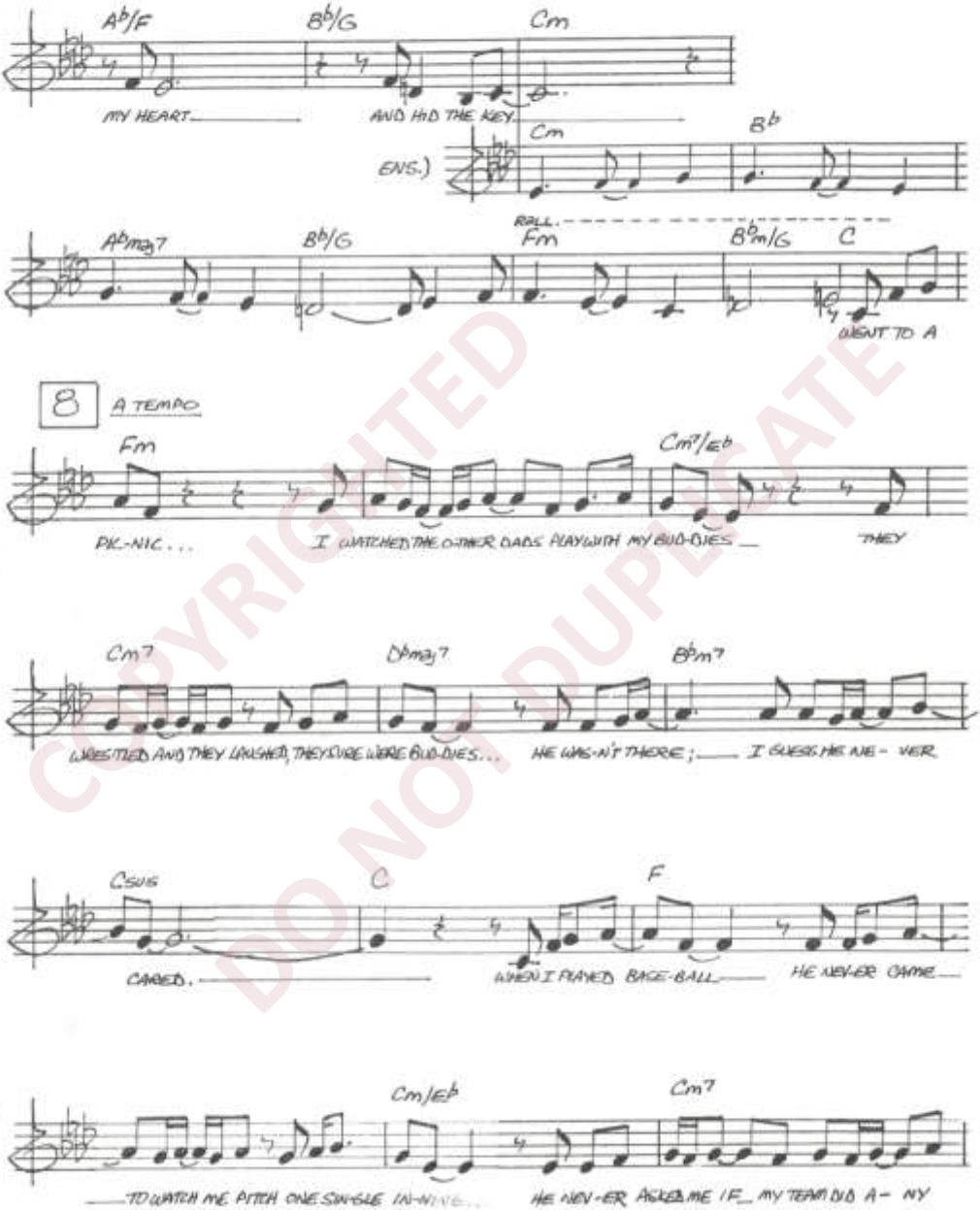

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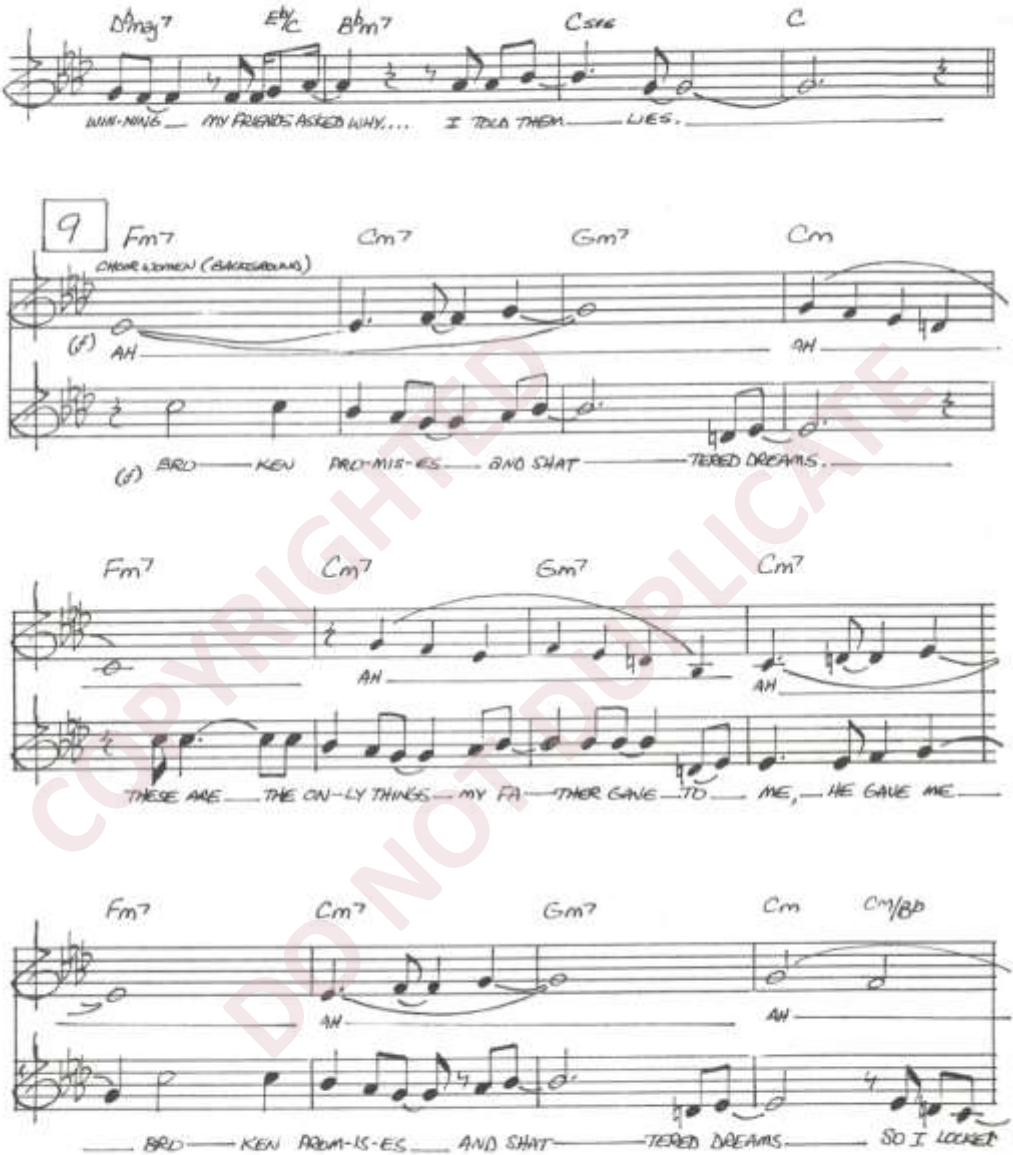

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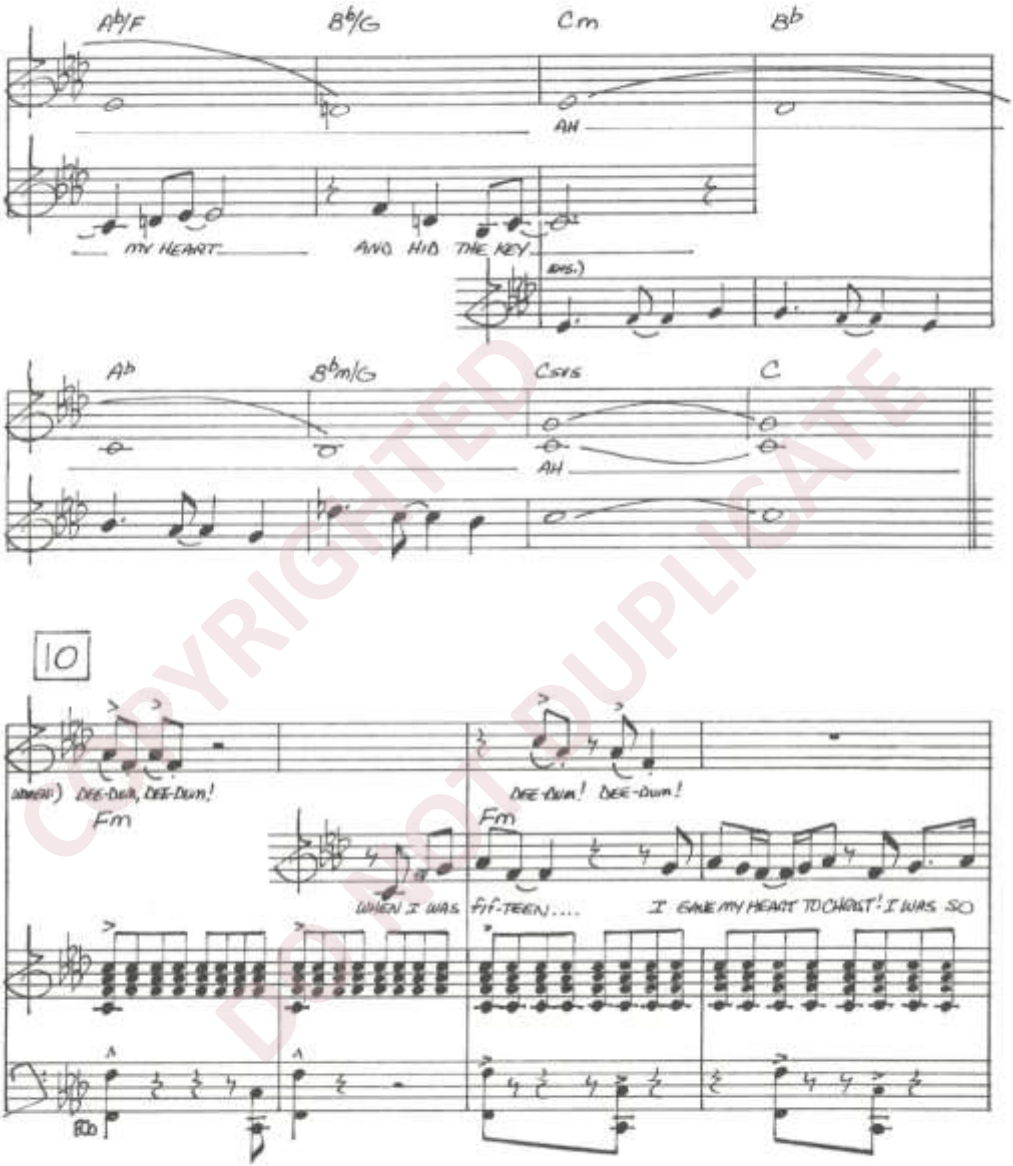

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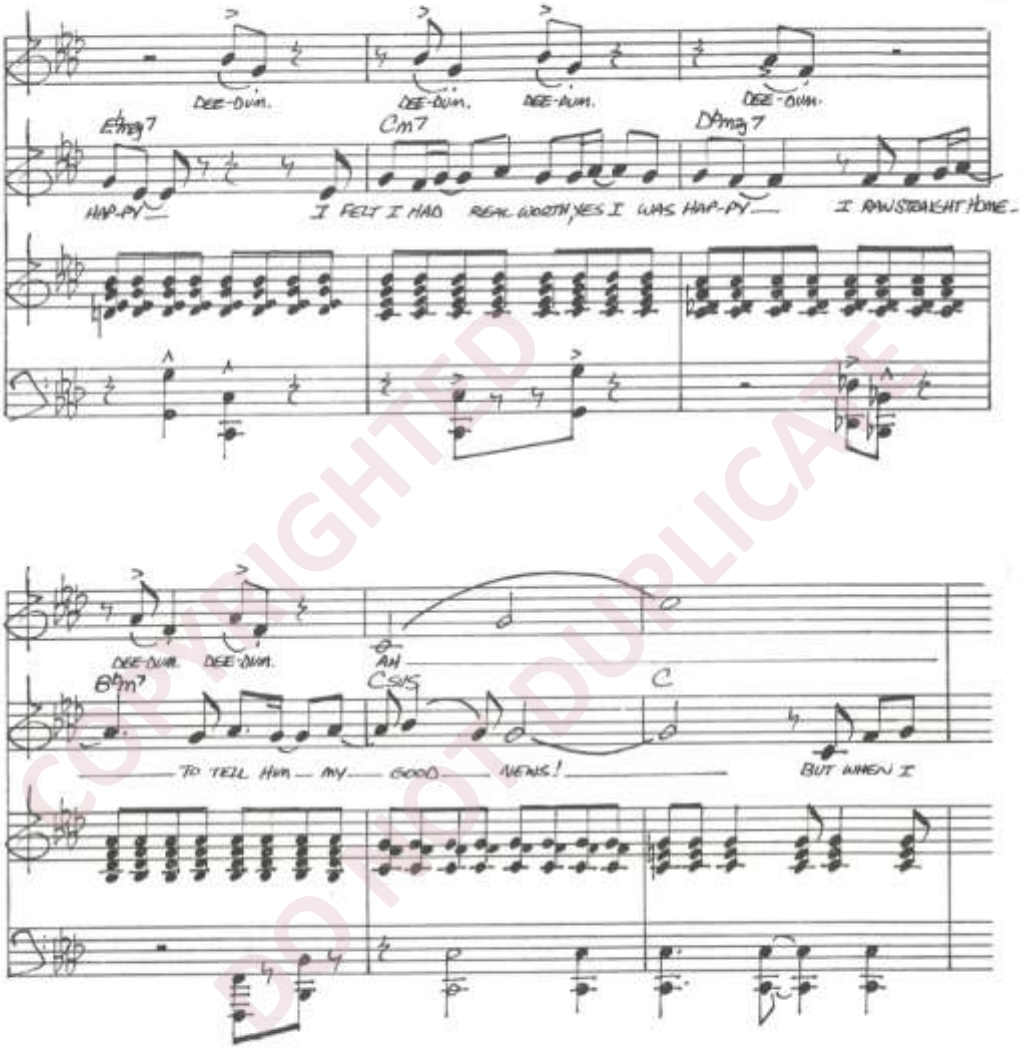

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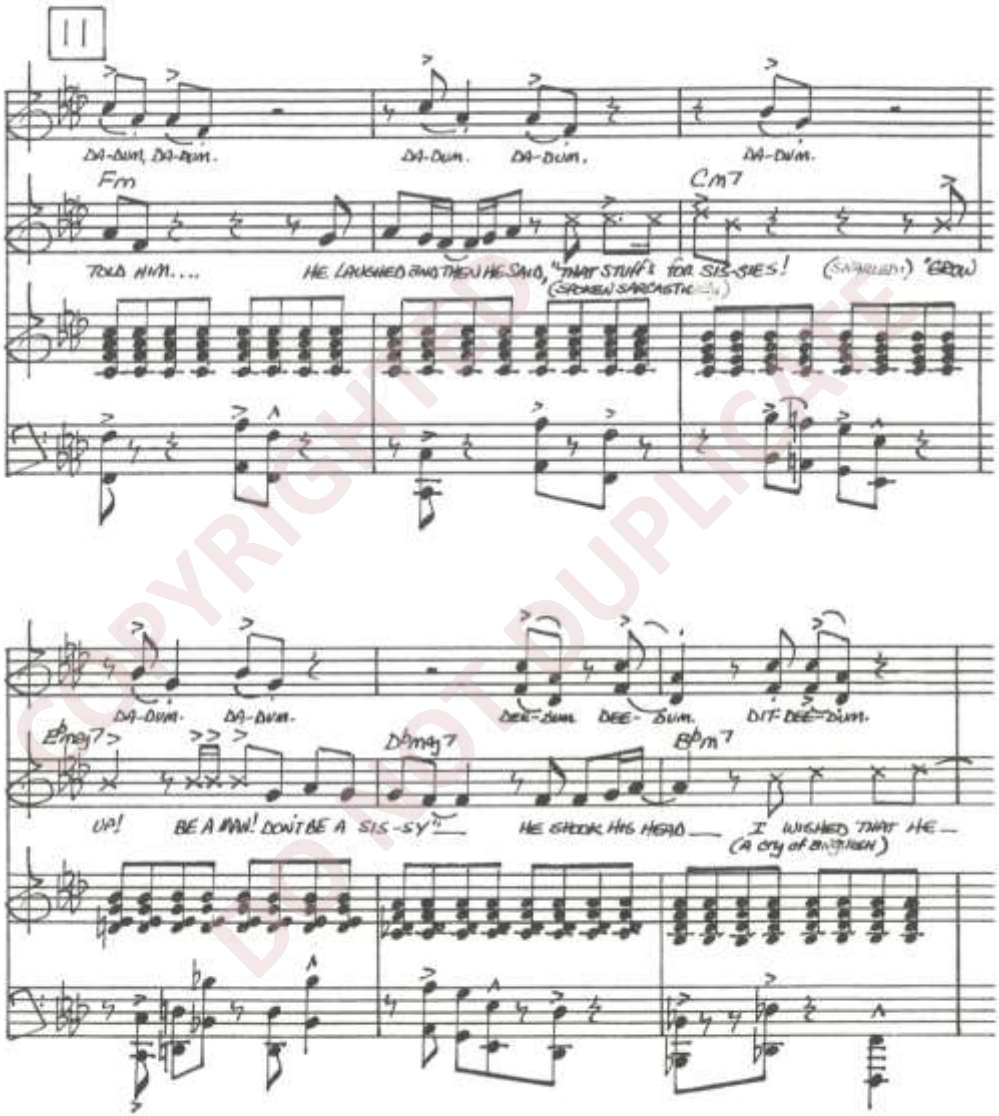

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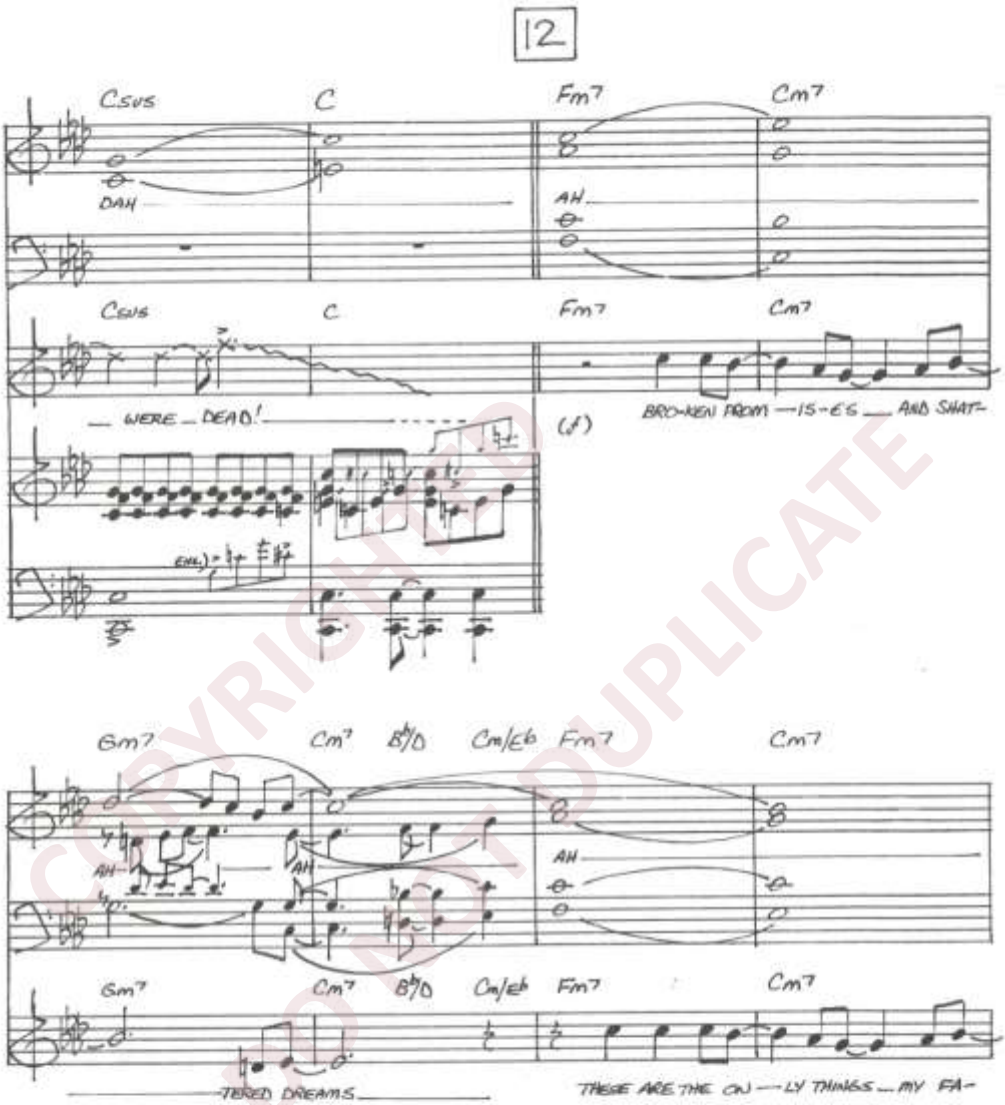

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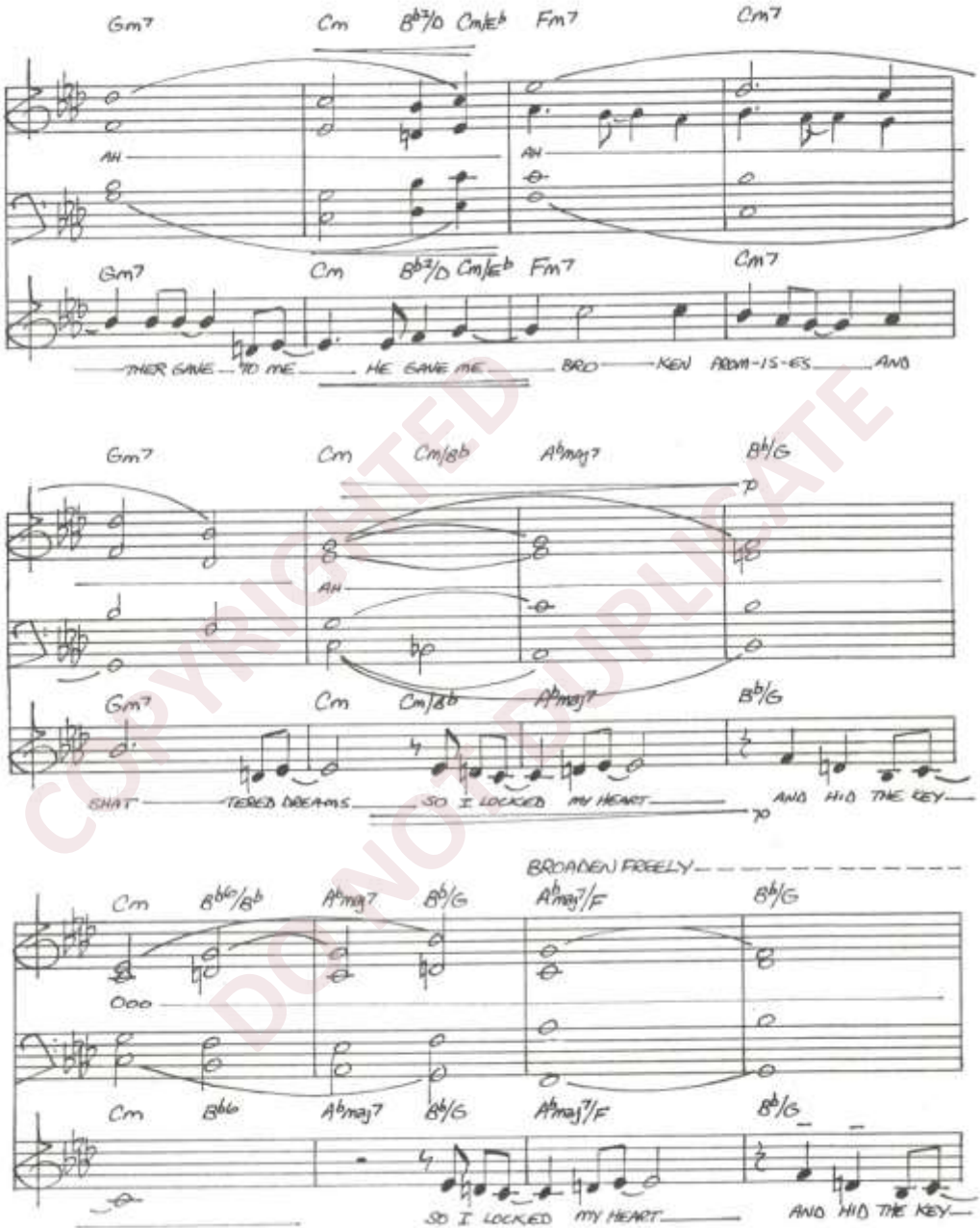

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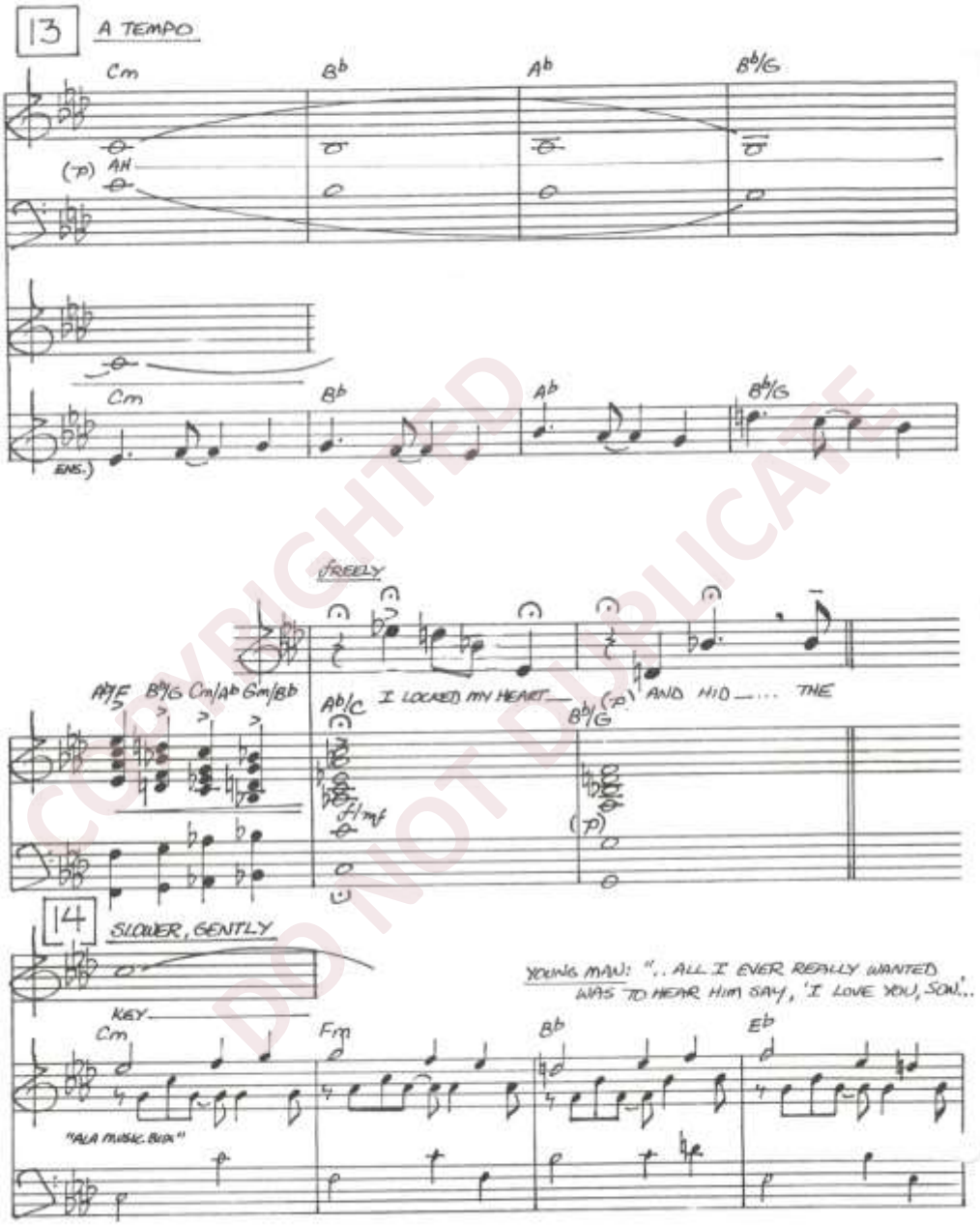

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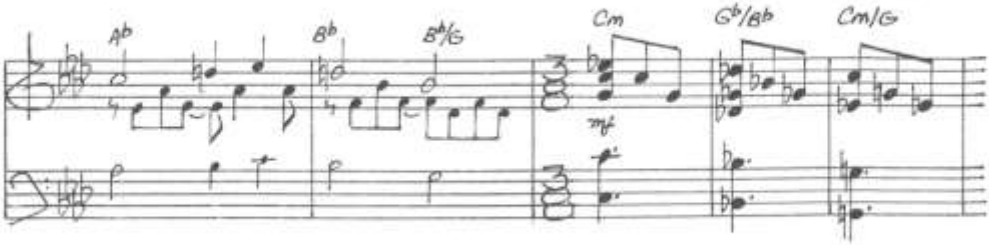
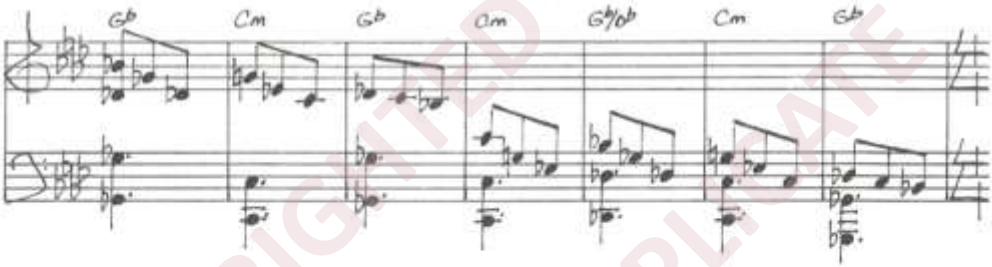
...IF YOU'RE SUCH A GOD OF LOVE... WHY DIDN'T YOU MAKE MY FATHER LOVE ME?!!...."



(THE YOUNG MAN SINKS SLOWLY TO HIS KNEES; HIS HEAD, HIS BODY, HIS ENTIRE CONTENANCE BOWED IN SADNESS, REJECTION, AND DEFEAT....



HE IS BATHED IN A SINGLE LIGHT, TOTALLY ALONE... THE LIGHT FADES AS....)

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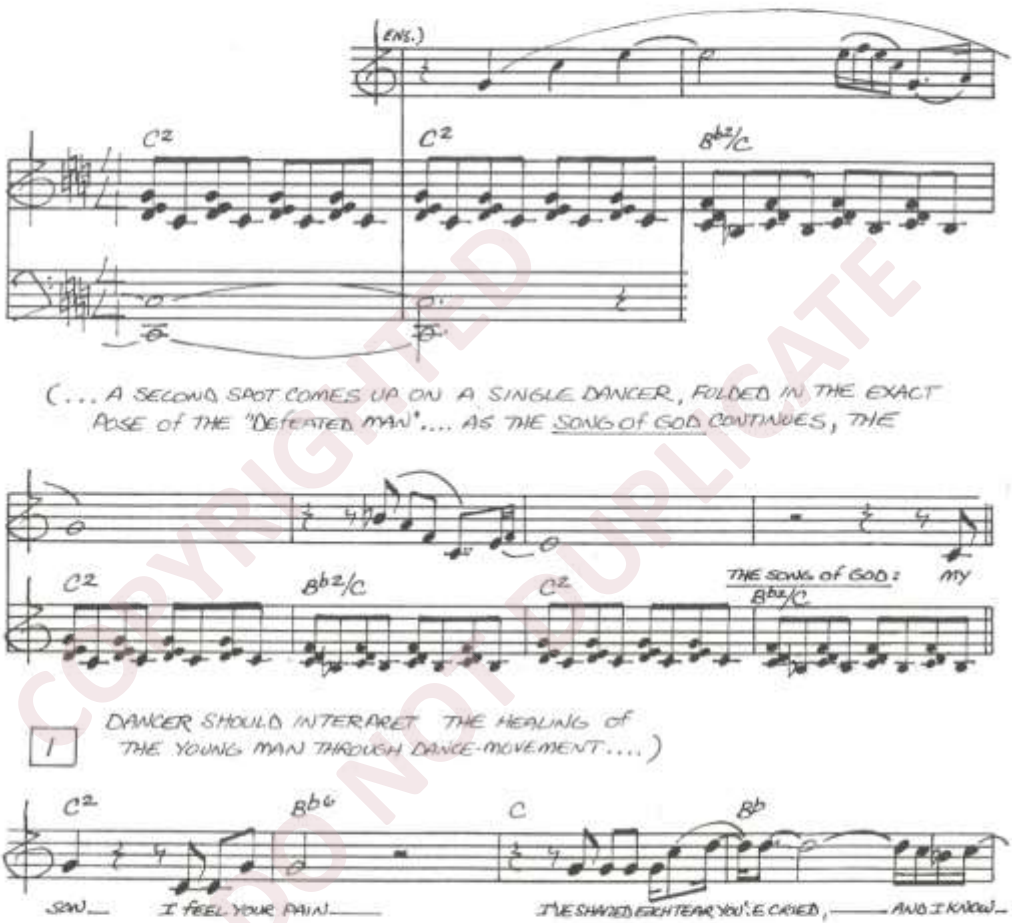
"My Son" / "Father-Heart"

Words & Music by ROD SCHUMACHER and DAVID HOLSINGER



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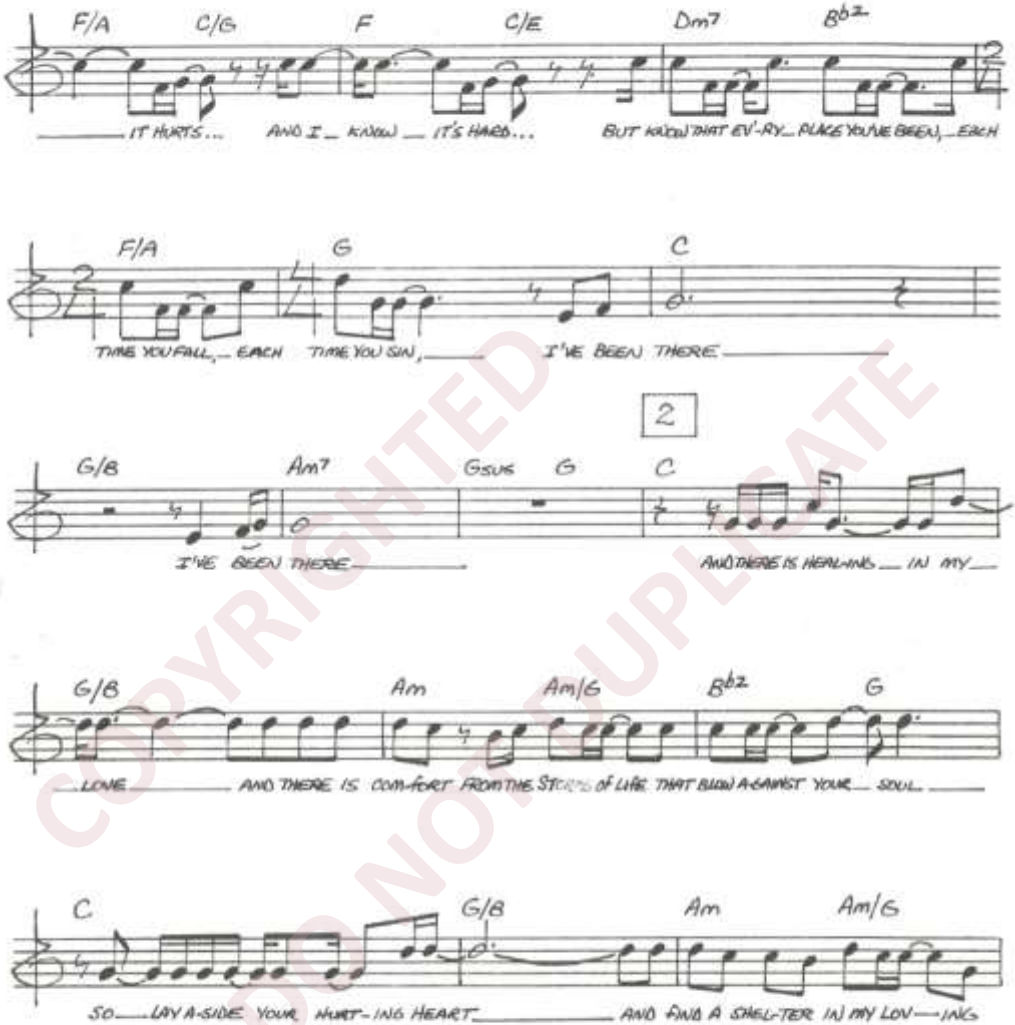

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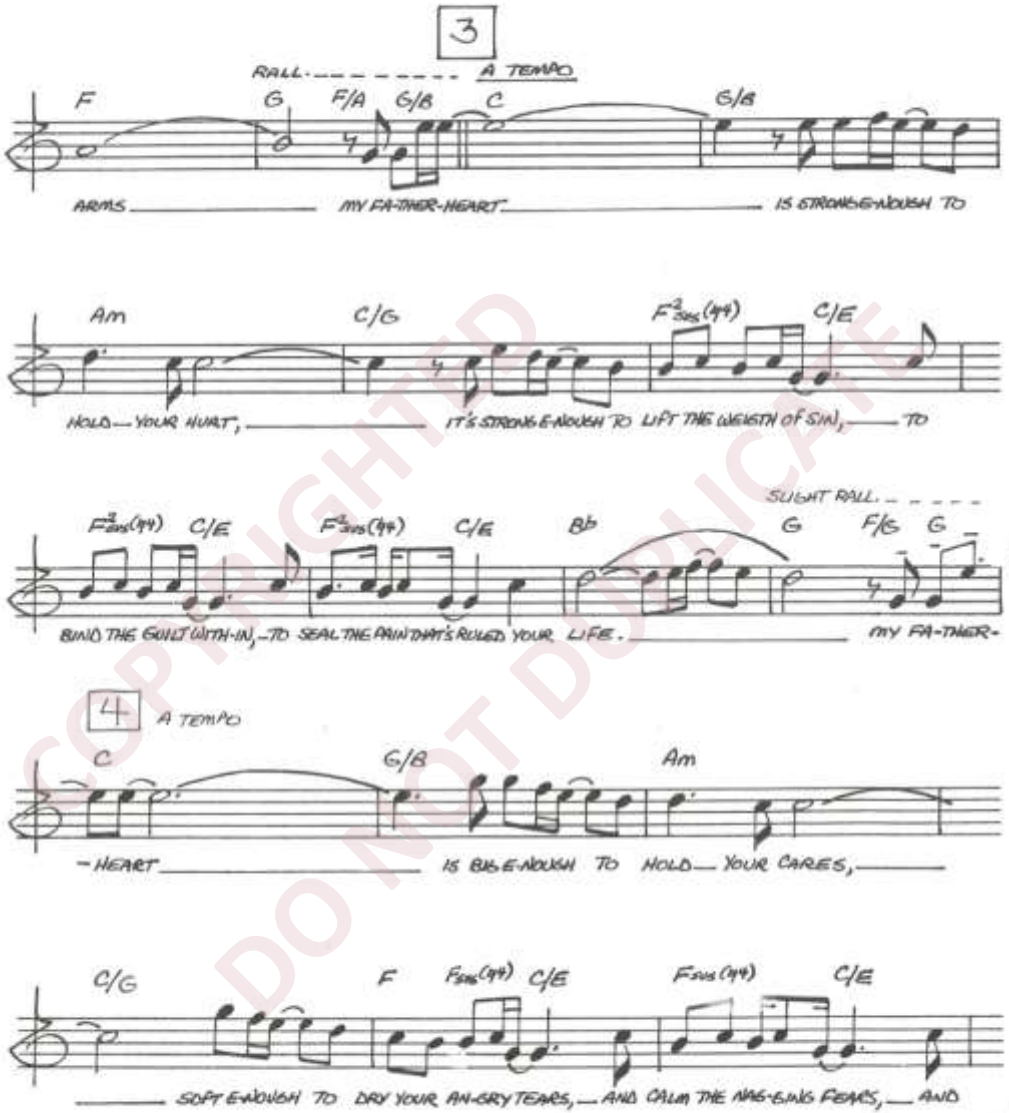

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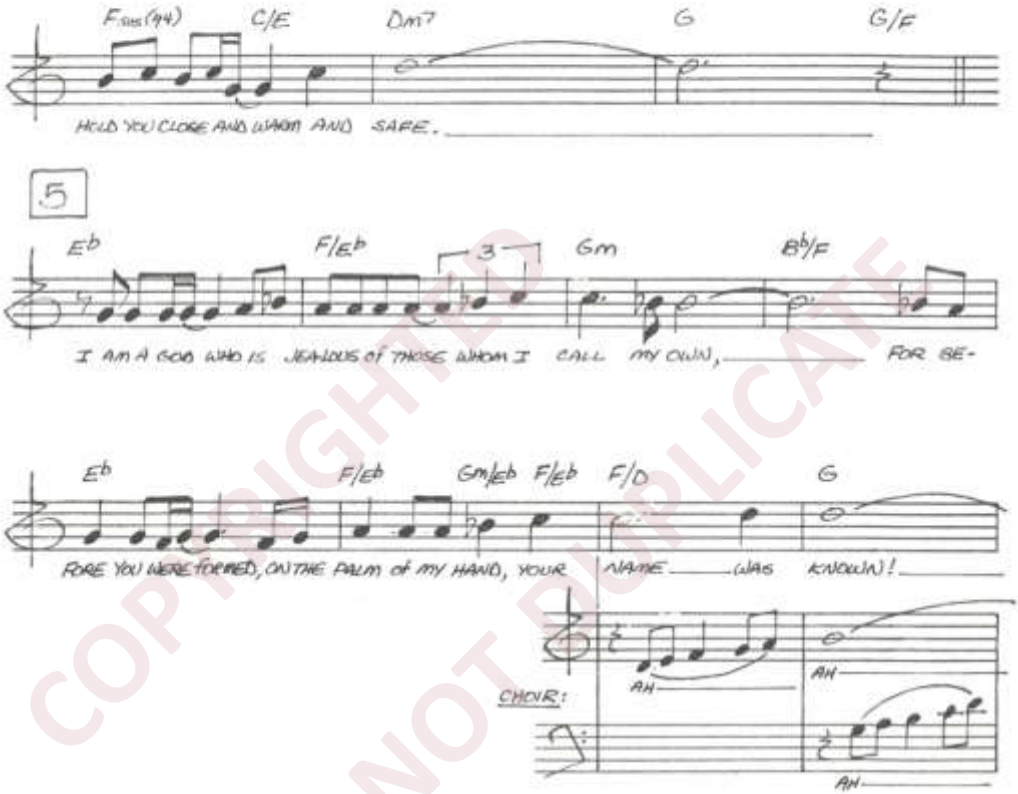

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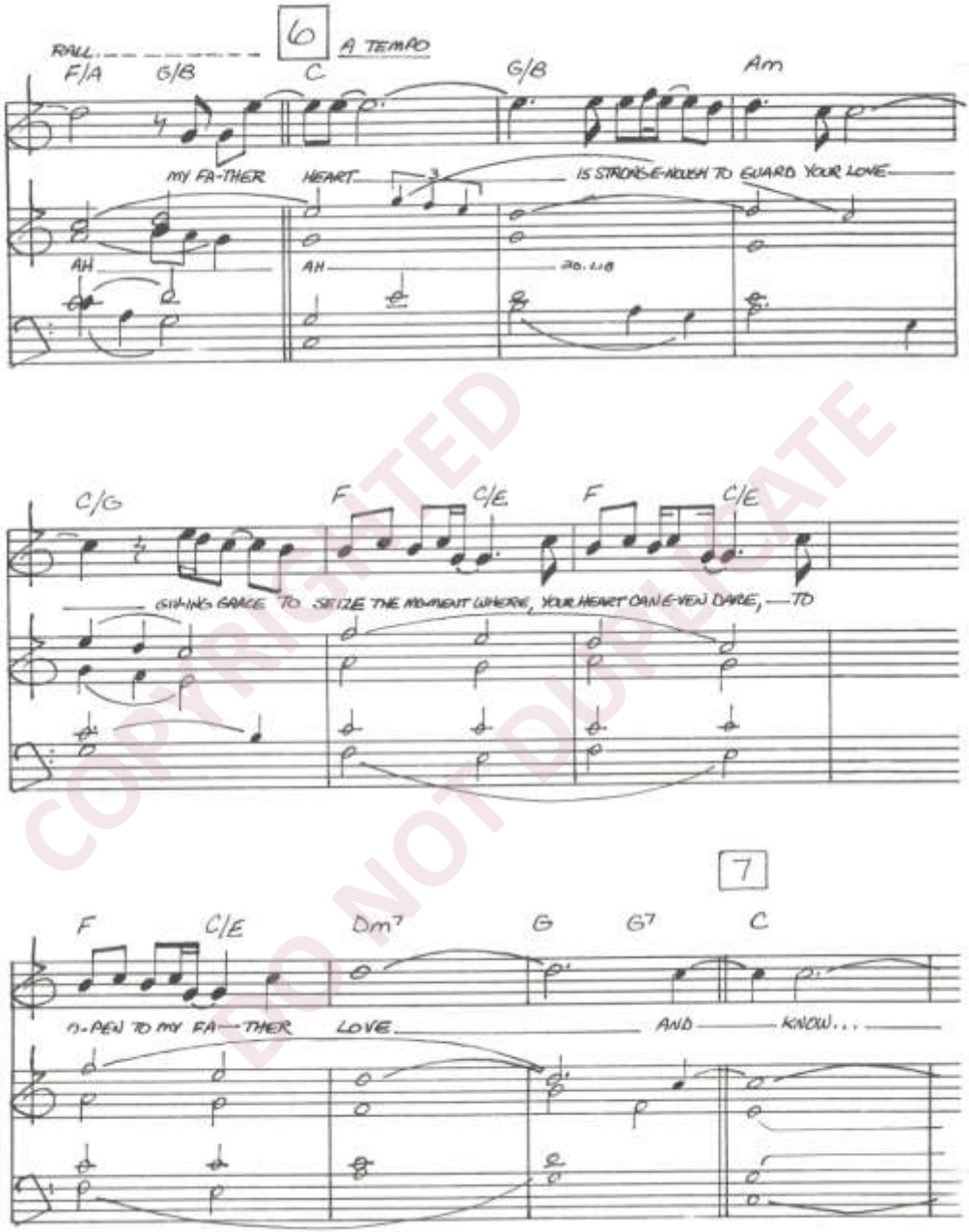

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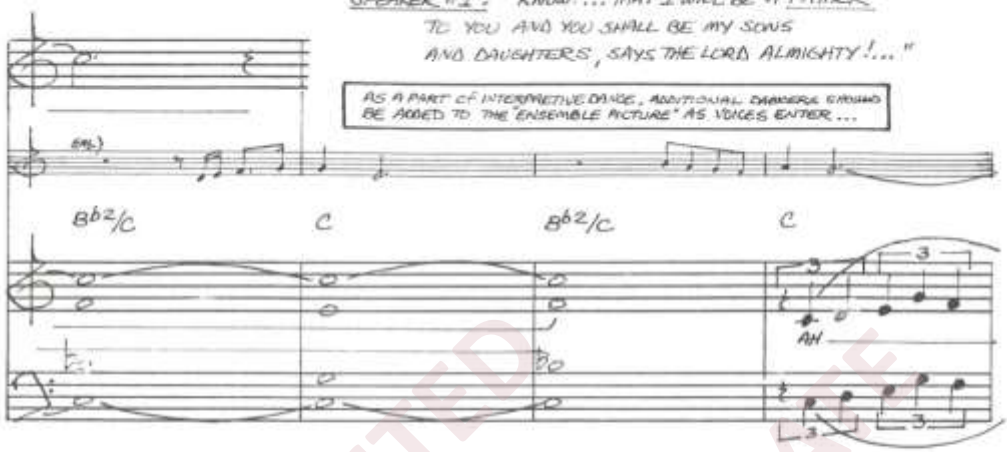
(VOICES OF EXHORTATION FROM WITHIN THE CHOIR:)

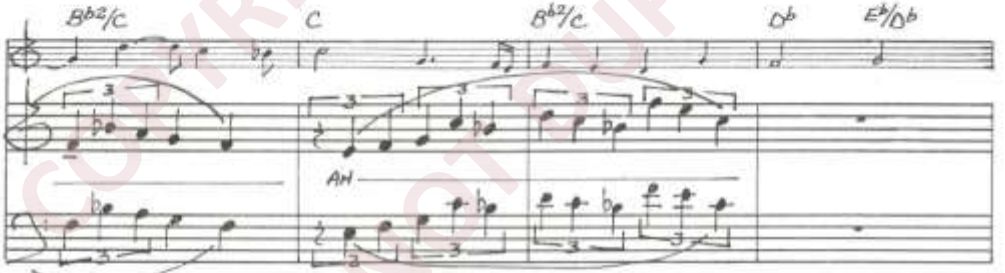
SPEAKER #1: "KNOW!... THAT I WILL BE A FATHER TO YOU AND YOU SHALL BE MY SONS AND DAUGHTERS, SAYS THE LORD ALMIGHTY!..."

AS A PART OF INTERPRETIVE DANCE, ADDITIONAL DANCERS SHOULD BE ADDED TO THE "ENSEMBLE PICTURE" AS VOICES ENTER...

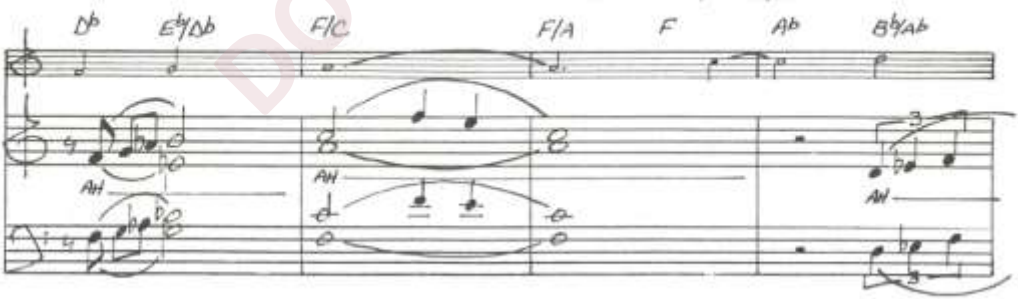


(EACH VOICE FOLLOW THE PREVIOUS VOICE IMMEDIATELY.)

SPEAKER #2: "THE LORD IS MERCIFUL AND GRACIOUS, SLOW TO ANGER, AND ABOUNDING IN STEADFAST LOVE!... AS FAR AS THE EAST IS FROM THE WEST, SO FAR DOES HE REMOVE OUR



TRANSGRESSIONS FROM US... AS A FATHER PITIES HIS CHILDREN, SO THE LORD PITIES THOSE WHO FEAR HIM!...."



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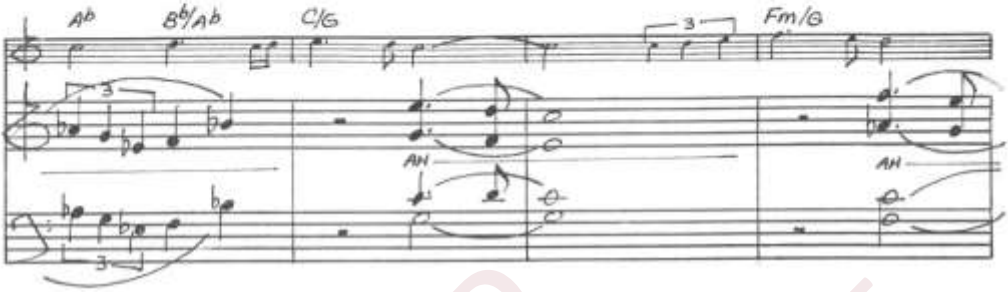
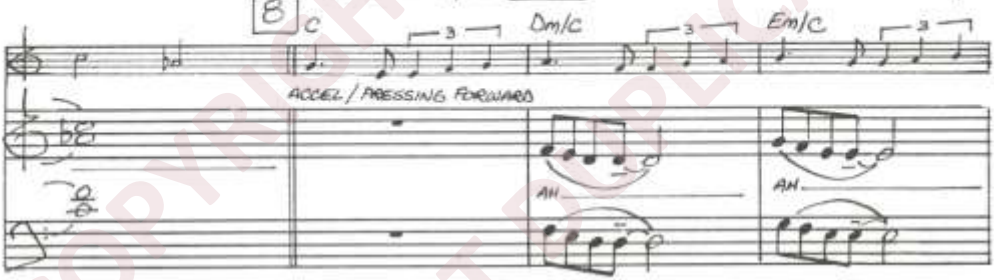
SPEAKER #3: "MY SON, DO NOT REGARD LIGHTLY THE DISCIPLINE OF THE LORD... FOR THE LORD DISCIPLINES HIM WHO HE LOVES, AND CHASTISES EVERY SON WHOM HE RECEIVES...."

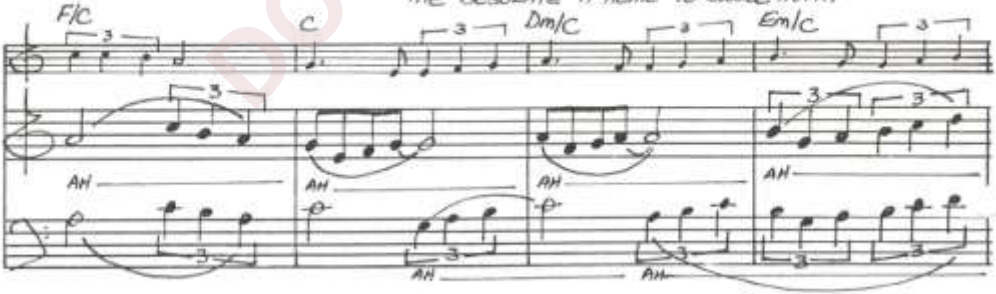


SPEAKER #4: "BLESSED BE THE GOD AND FATHER OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST, THE FATHER OF MERCIES AND GOD OF ALL COMFORT,



WHO COMFORTS US IN ALL OUR AFFLICTIONS..."

SPEAKER #5: "FATHER OF THE FATHERLESS AND PROTECTOR OF WIDOWS IS GOD IN HIS HOLY HABITATION! GOD GIVES THE DESOLATE A HOME TO DWELL IN...."



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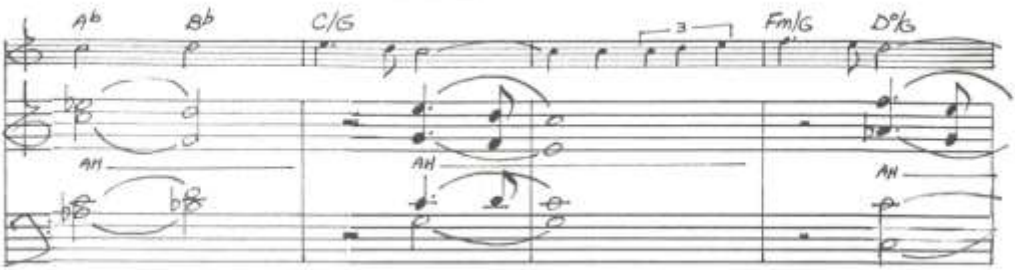
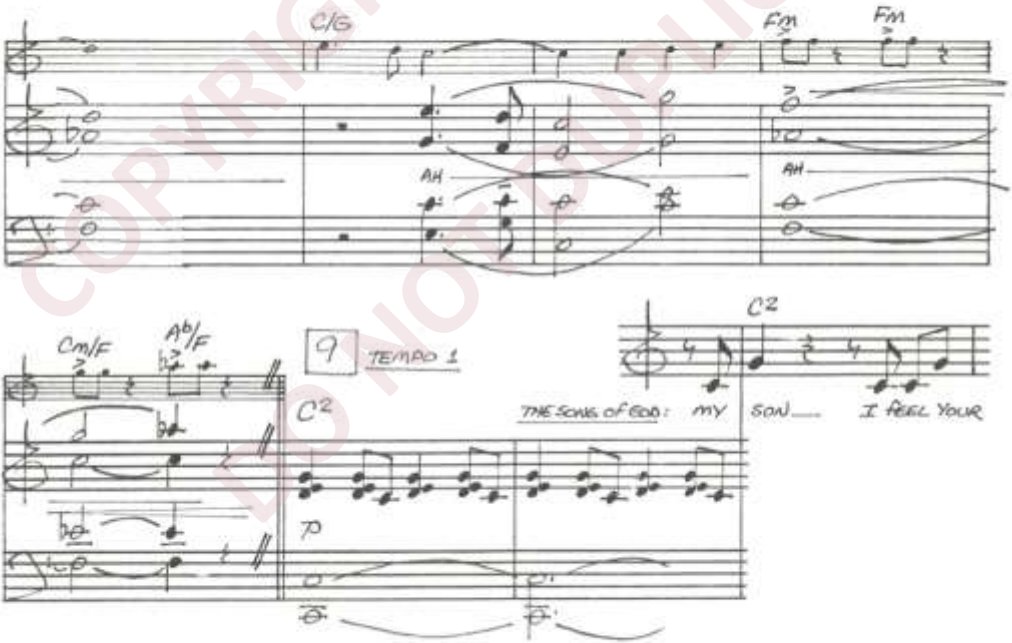
SPEAKER #6: "HE WHO DWELLS IN THE SHELTER OF THE MOST



HIGH, WHO ABIDES IN THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY,
WILL SAY OF THE LORD, 'MY REFUGE AND MY FORTRESS;
MY GOD, IN WHOM I TRUST.... FOR HE WILL DELIVER YOU!..."



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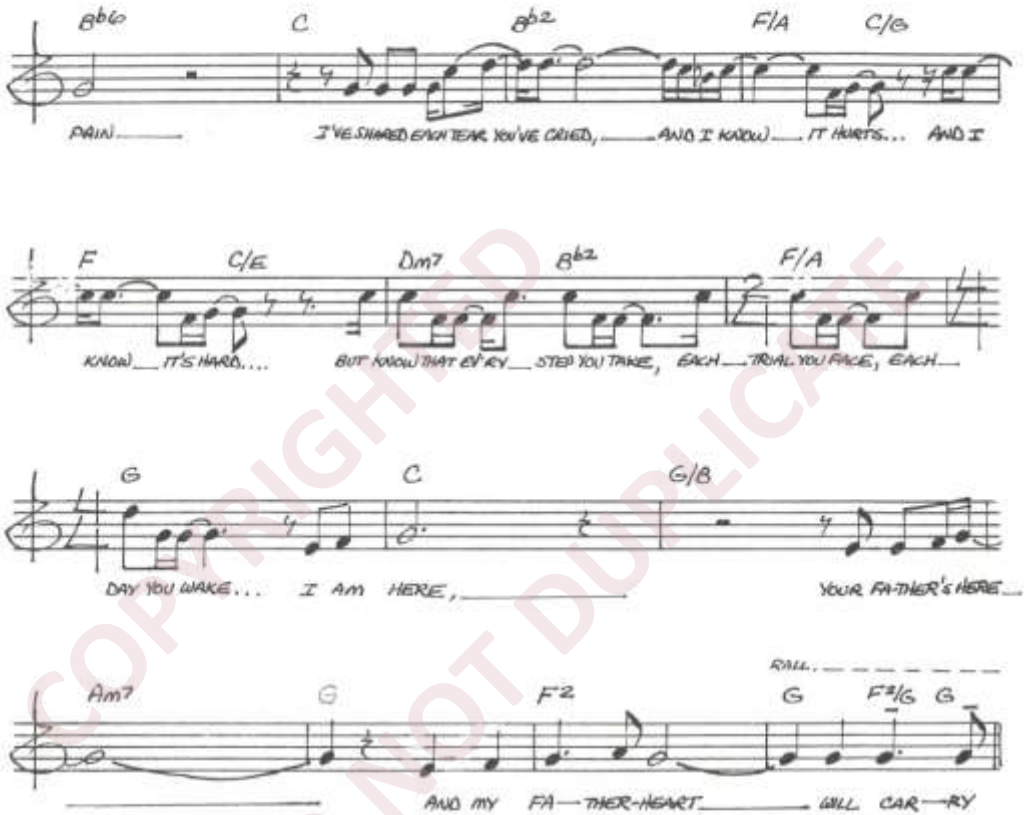

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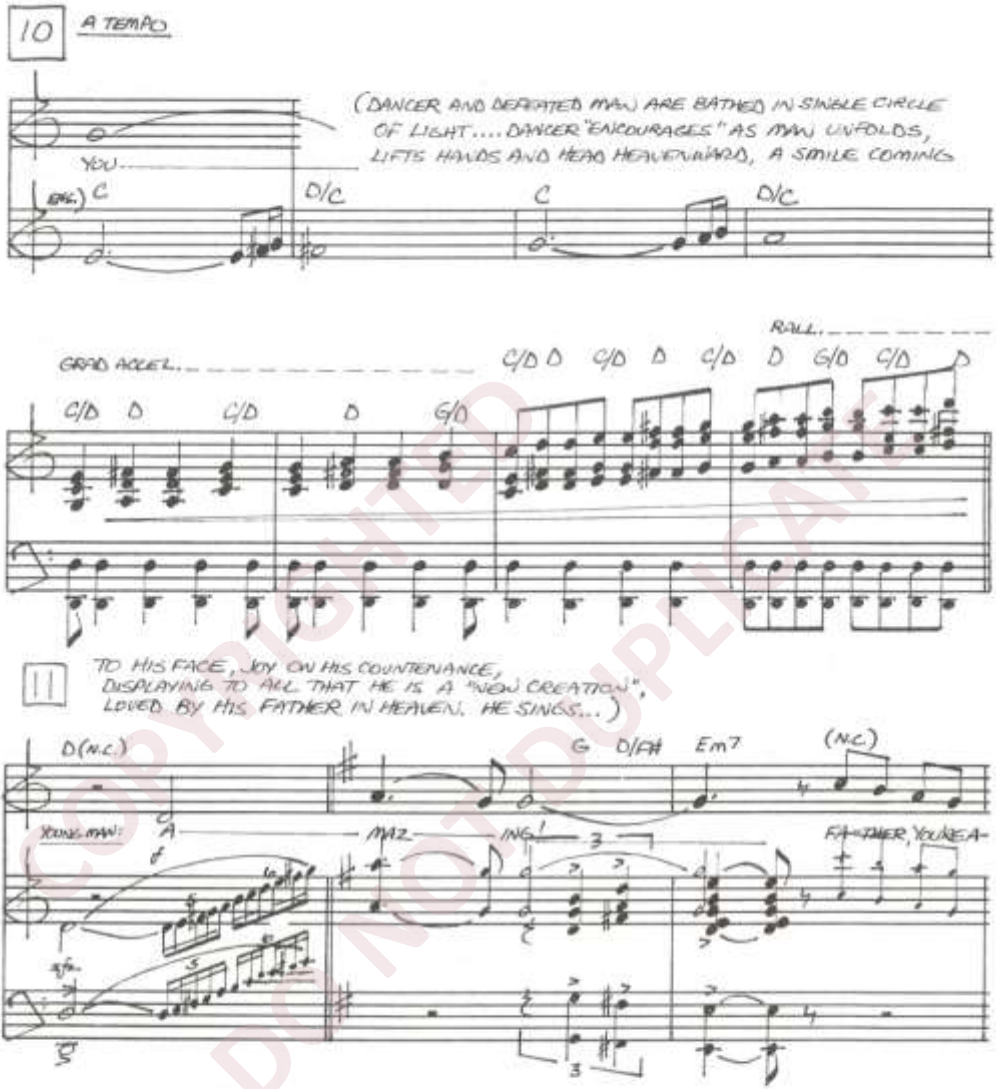

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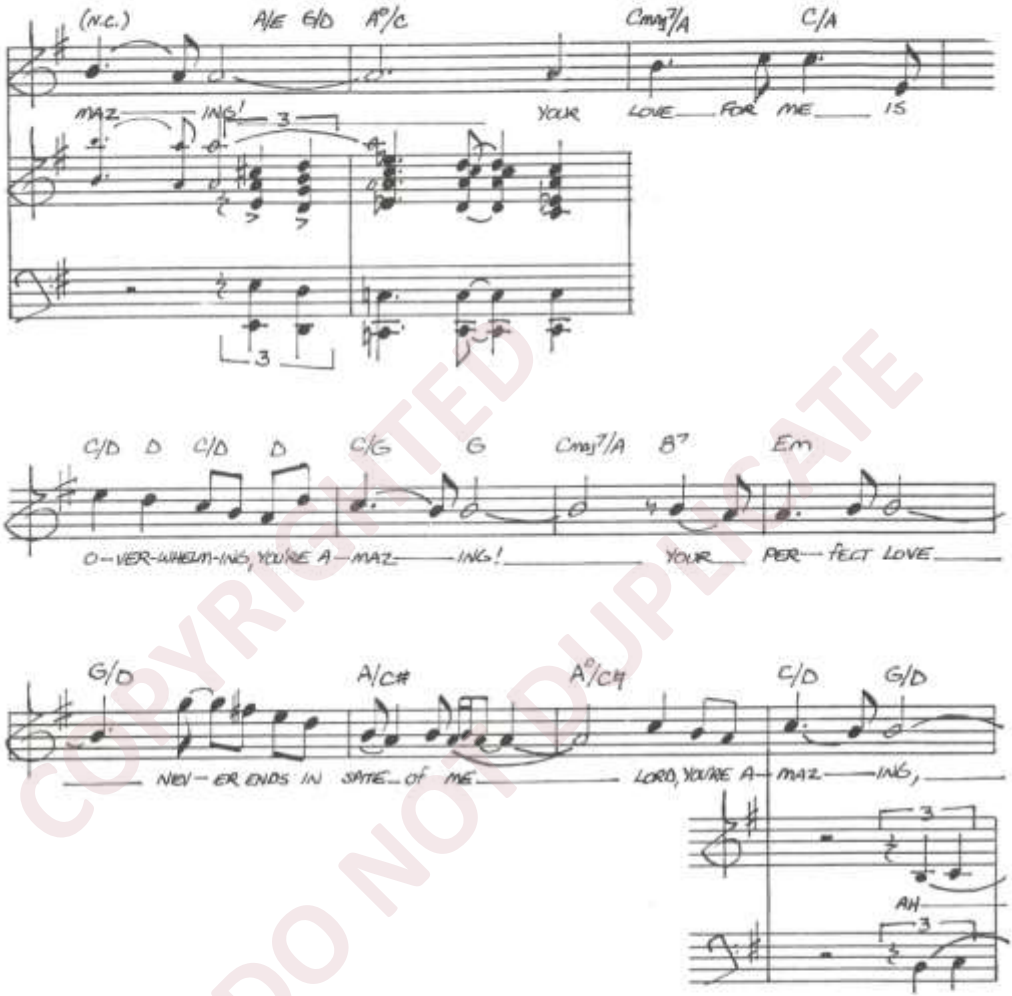

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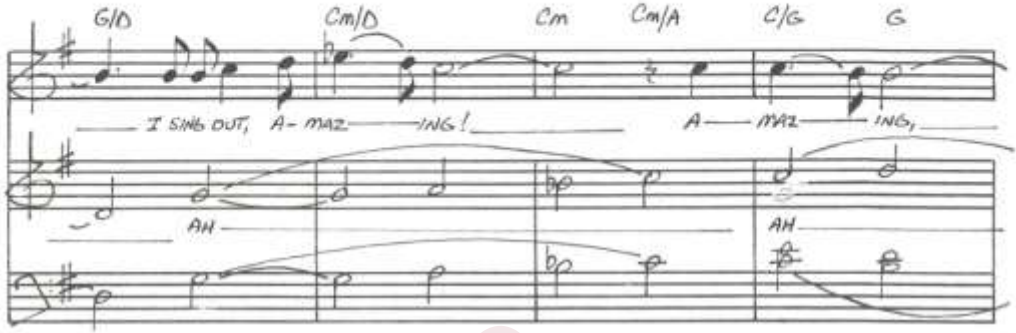

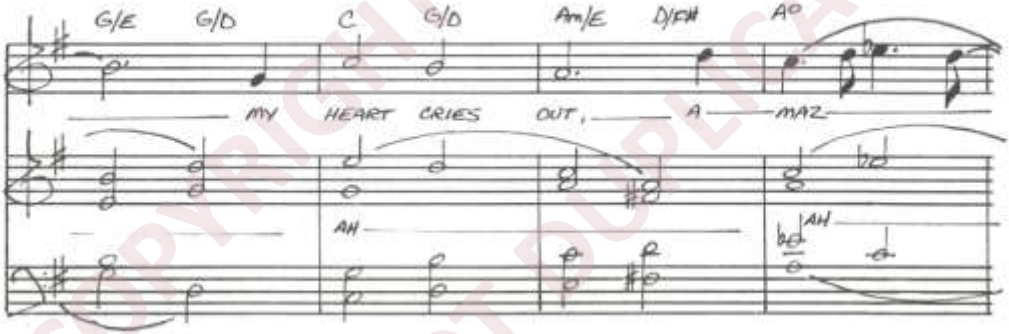

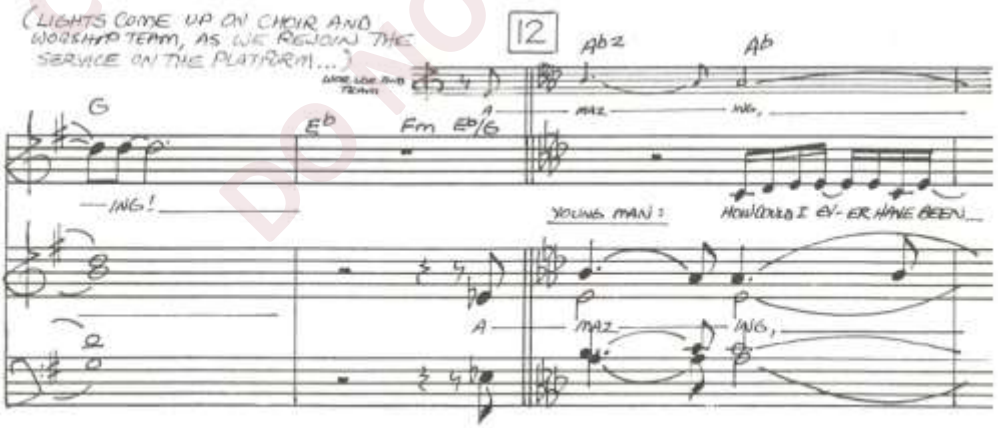

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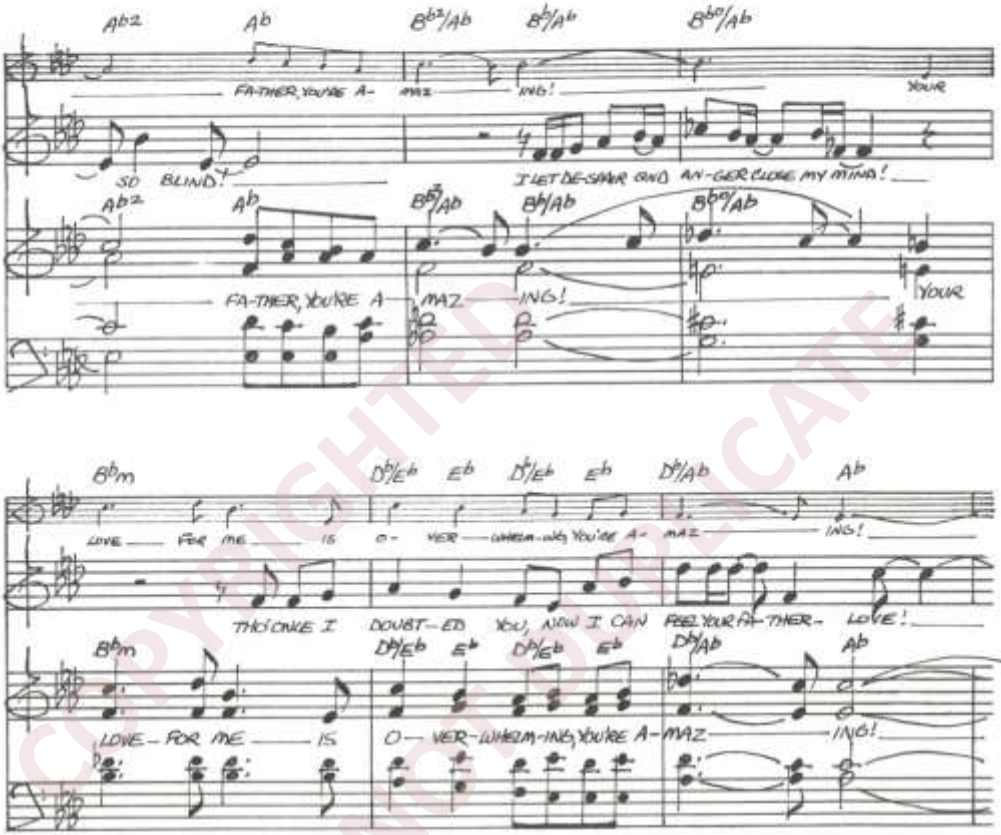

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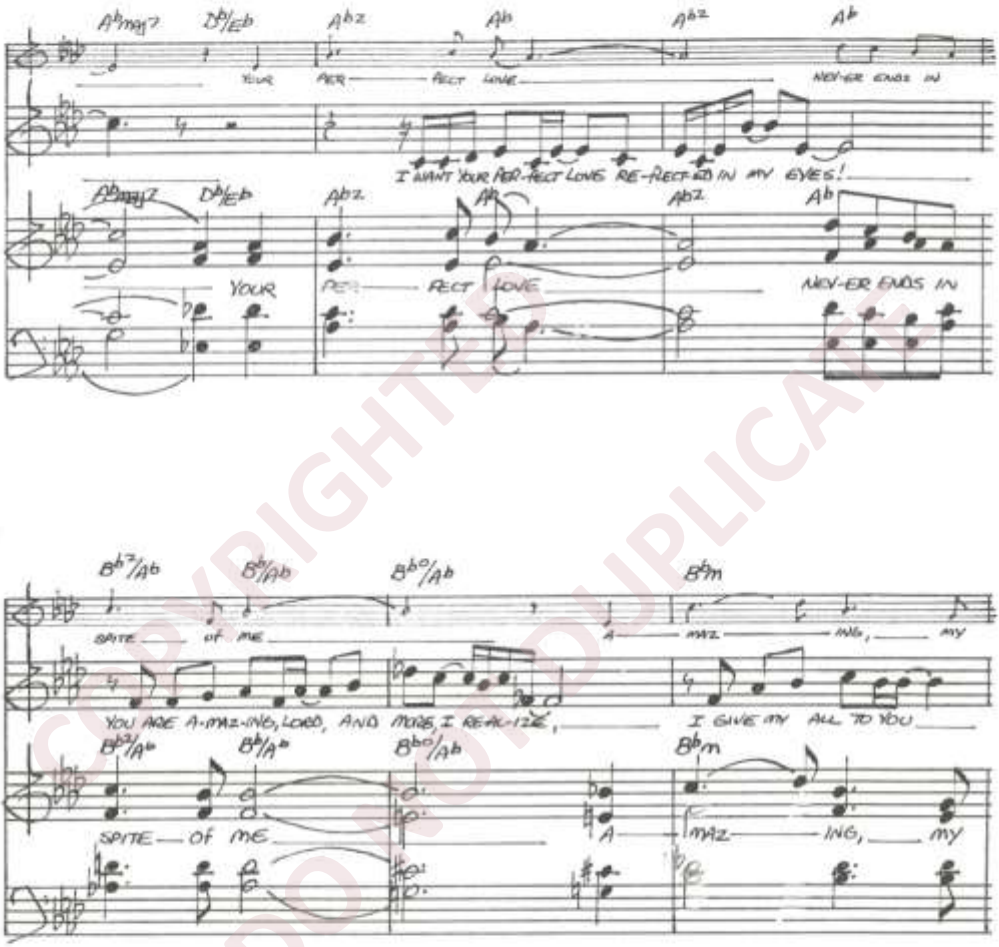

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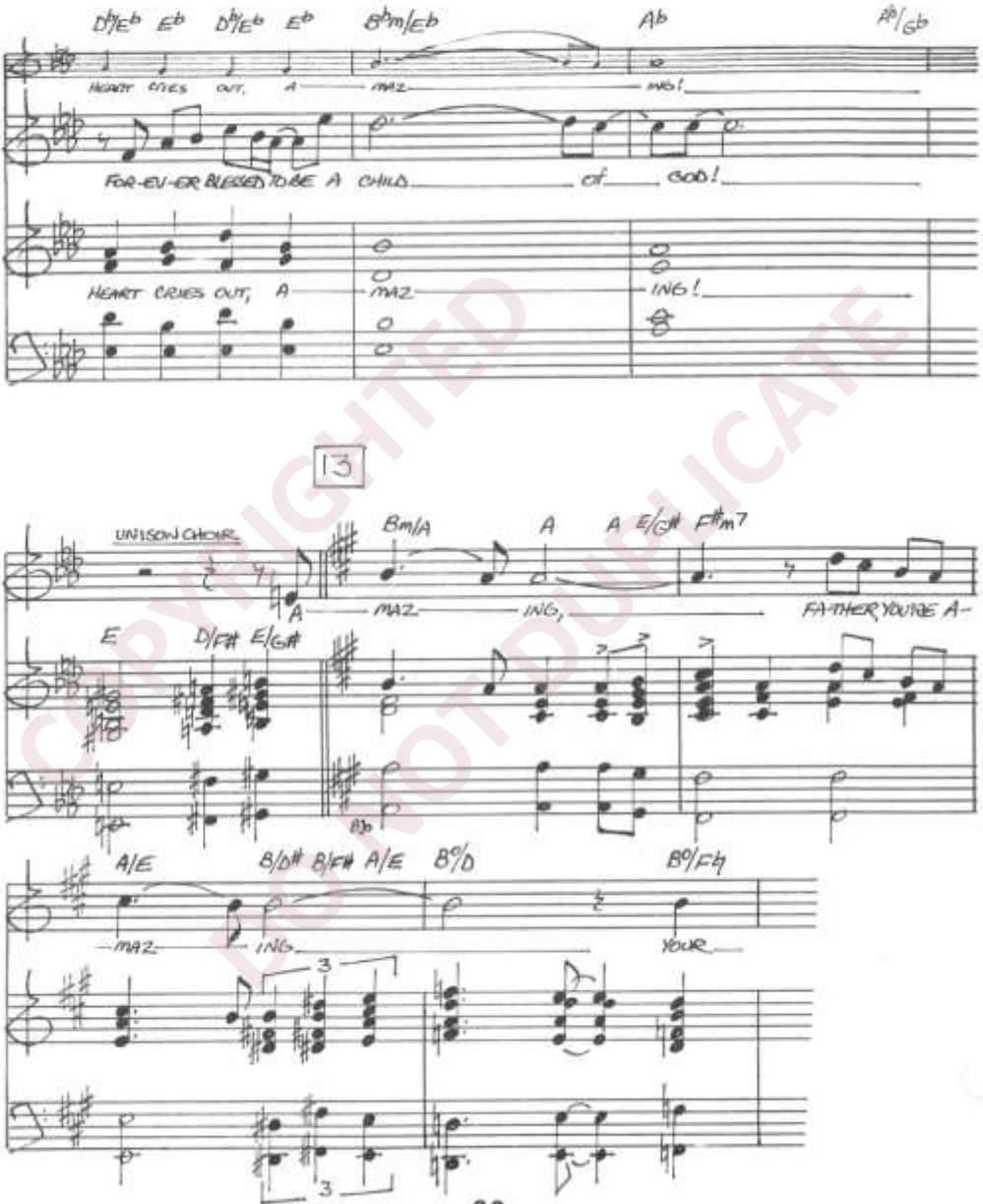

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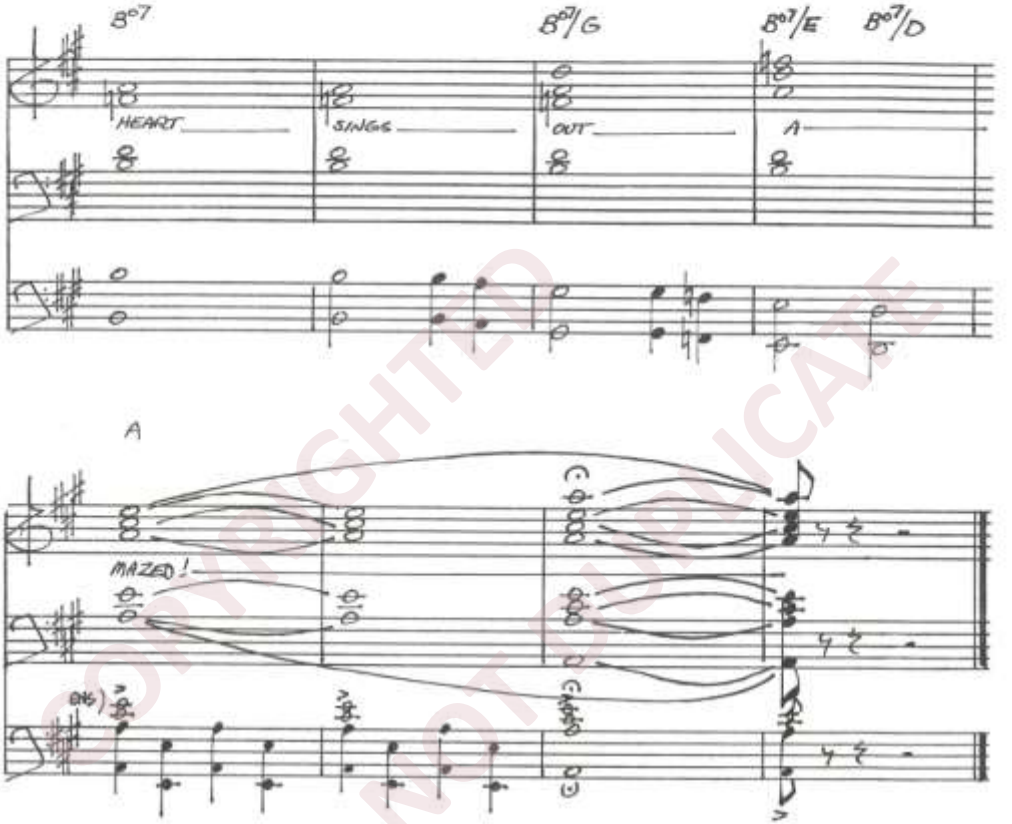

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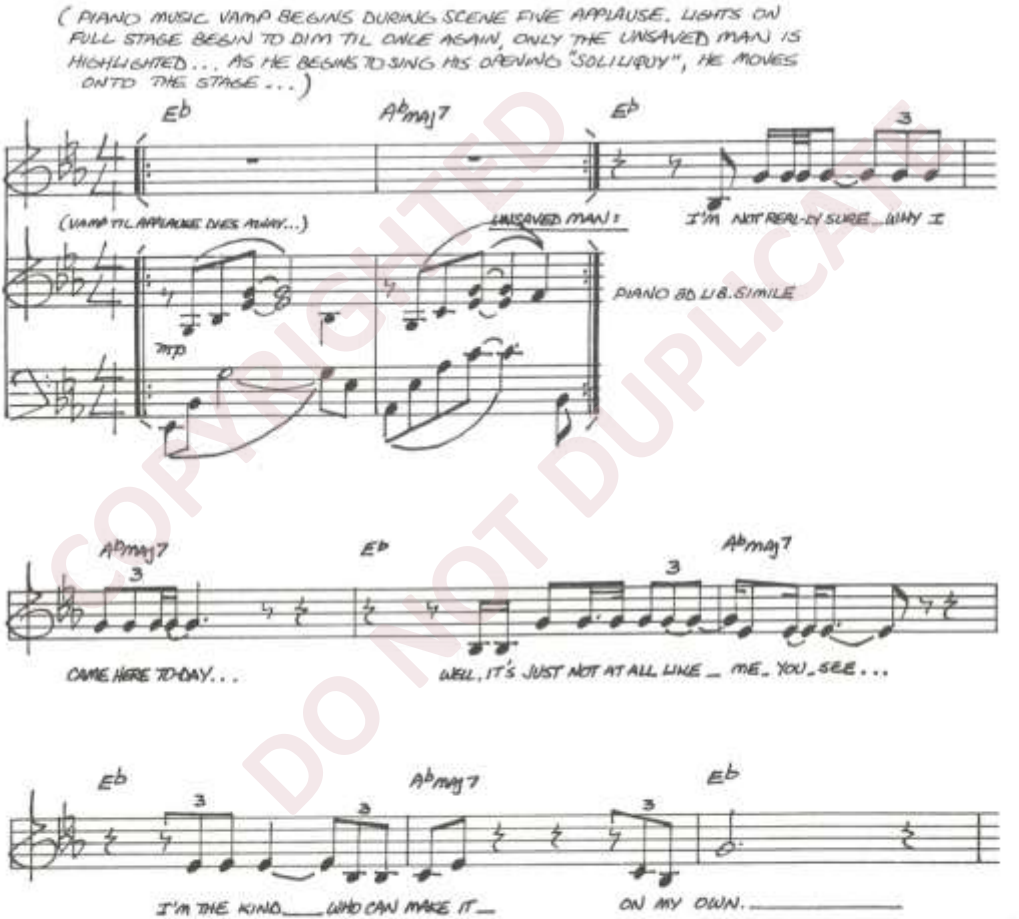
"EVERY SUNDAY" / SCENE SIX

"Soliliquy" & "God, You Are My Life"

Words & Music by ROD SCHUMACHER



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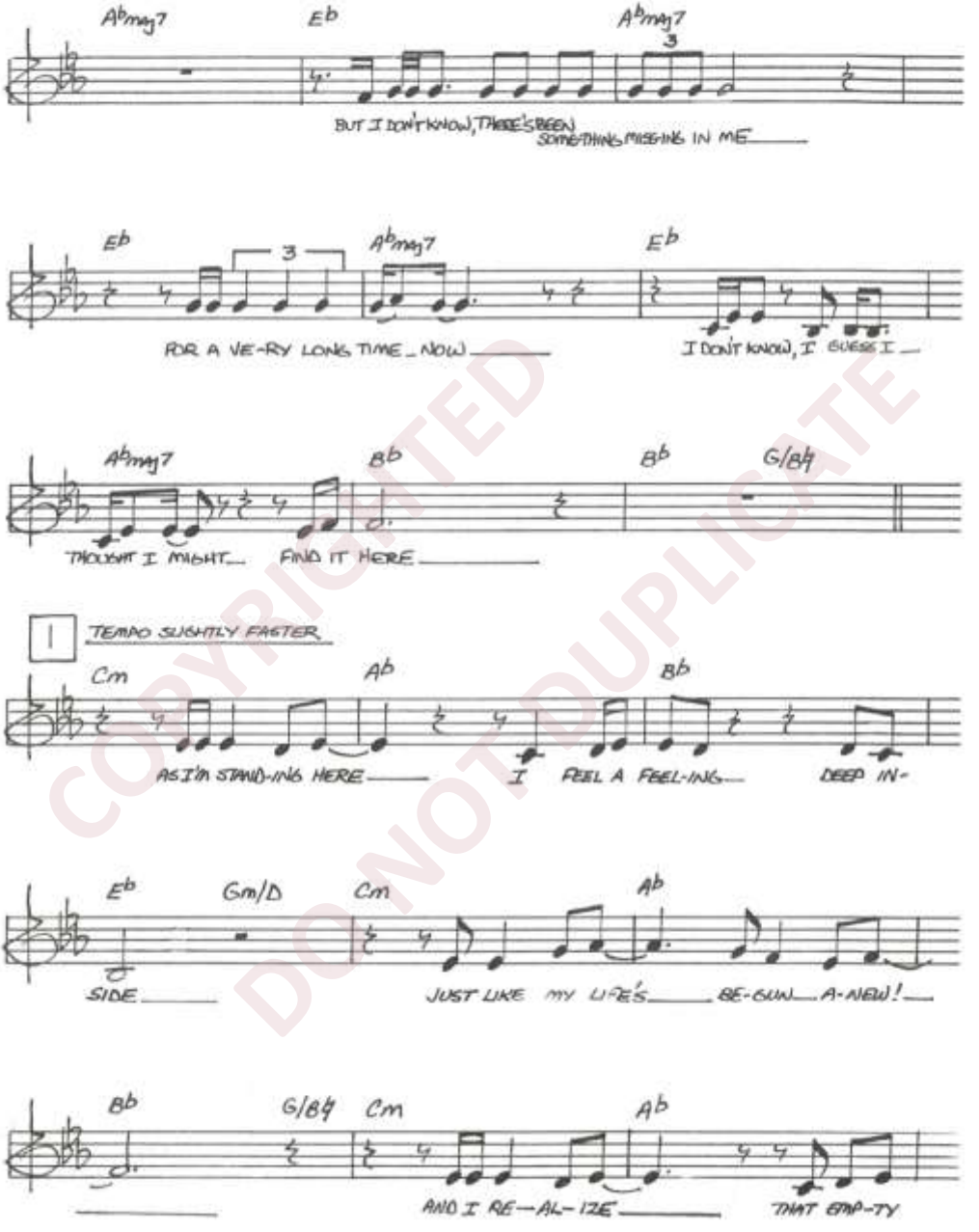

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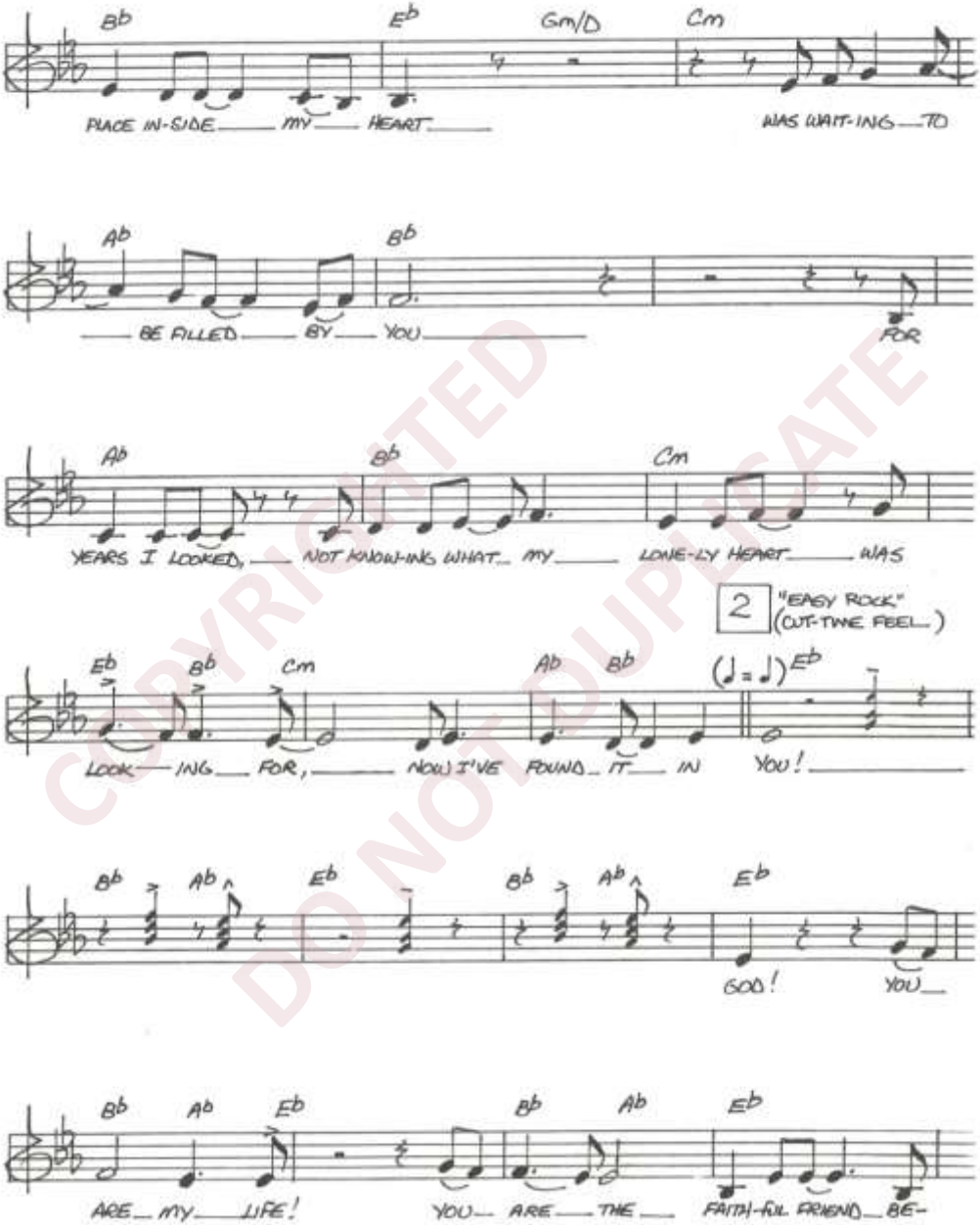

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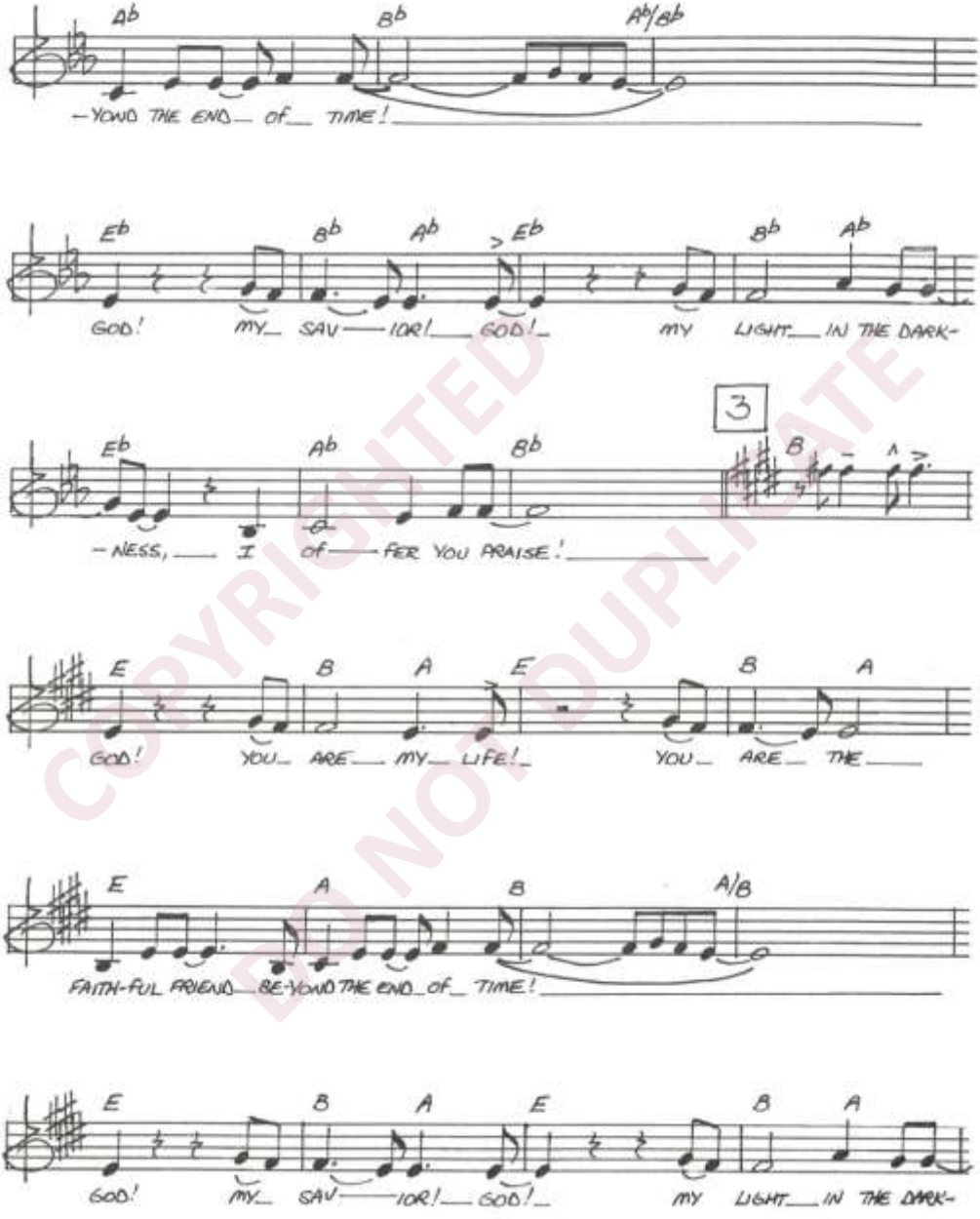

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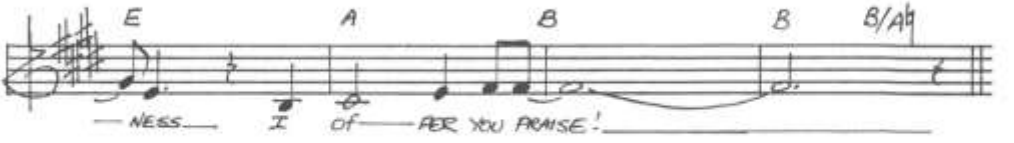
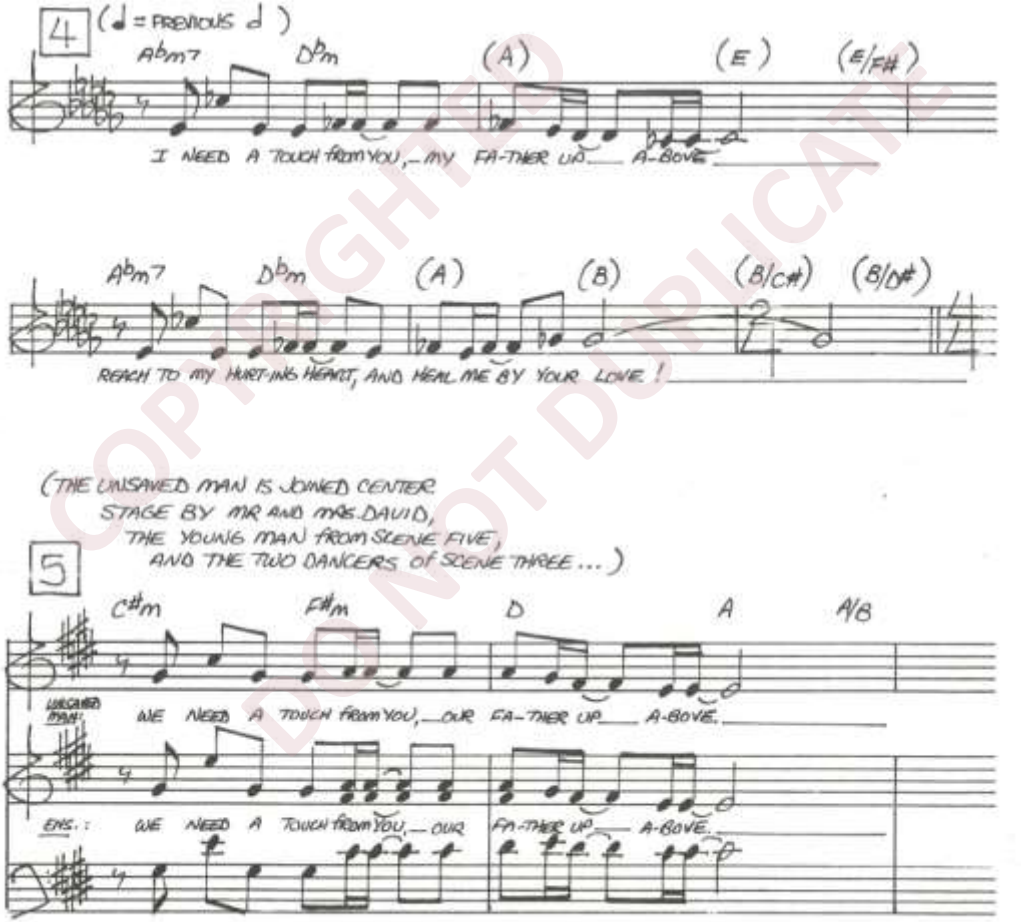


REPRISE - "We Need a Touch From You"

"It's the Same Thing Every Sunday Morning!"



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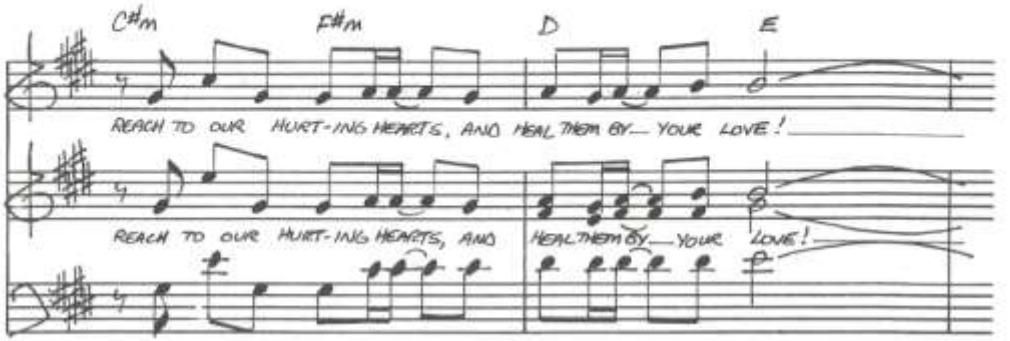
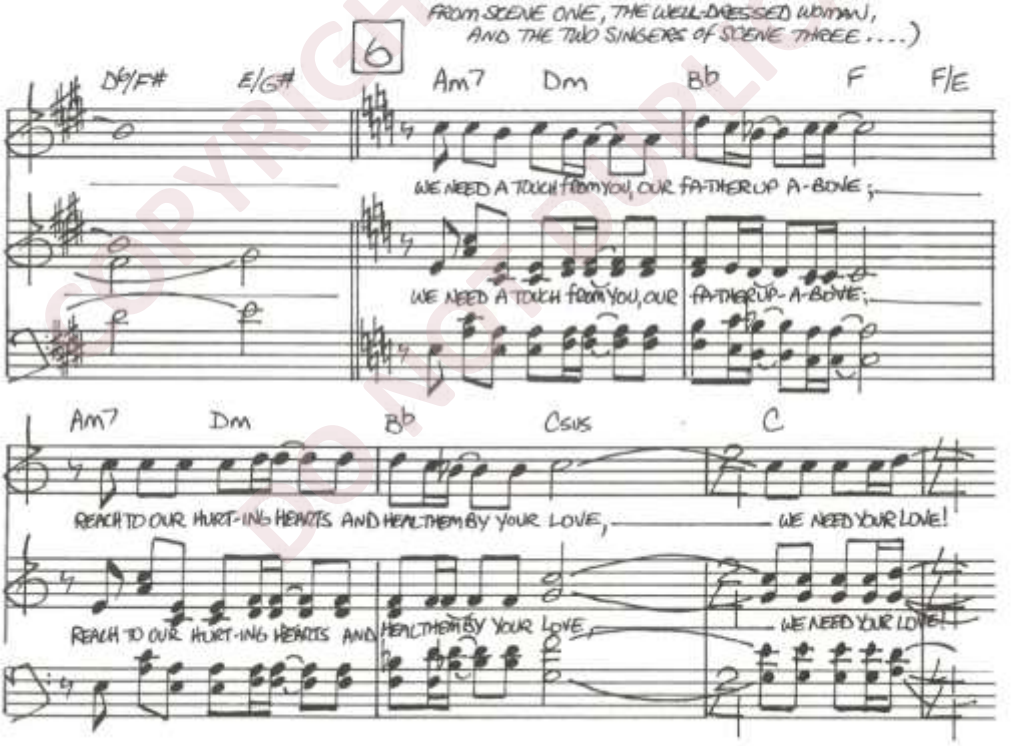


(GROUP SURROUNDING UNSAVED MAN IN CENTER STAGE IS JOINED BY THE FAMILY MEMBERS FROM SCENE ONE, THE WELL-DRESSED WOMAN, AND THE TWO SINGERS OF SCENE THREE....)



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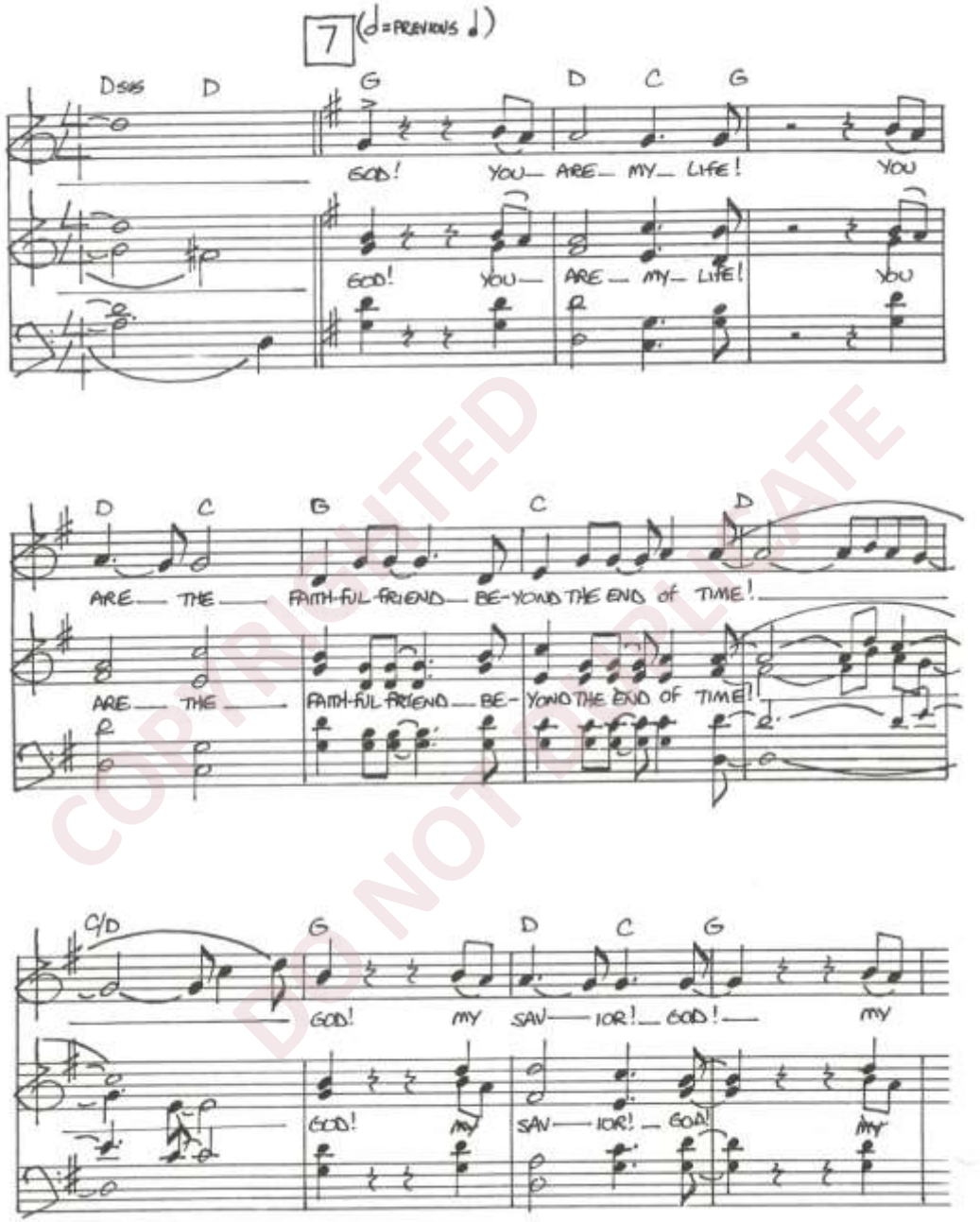

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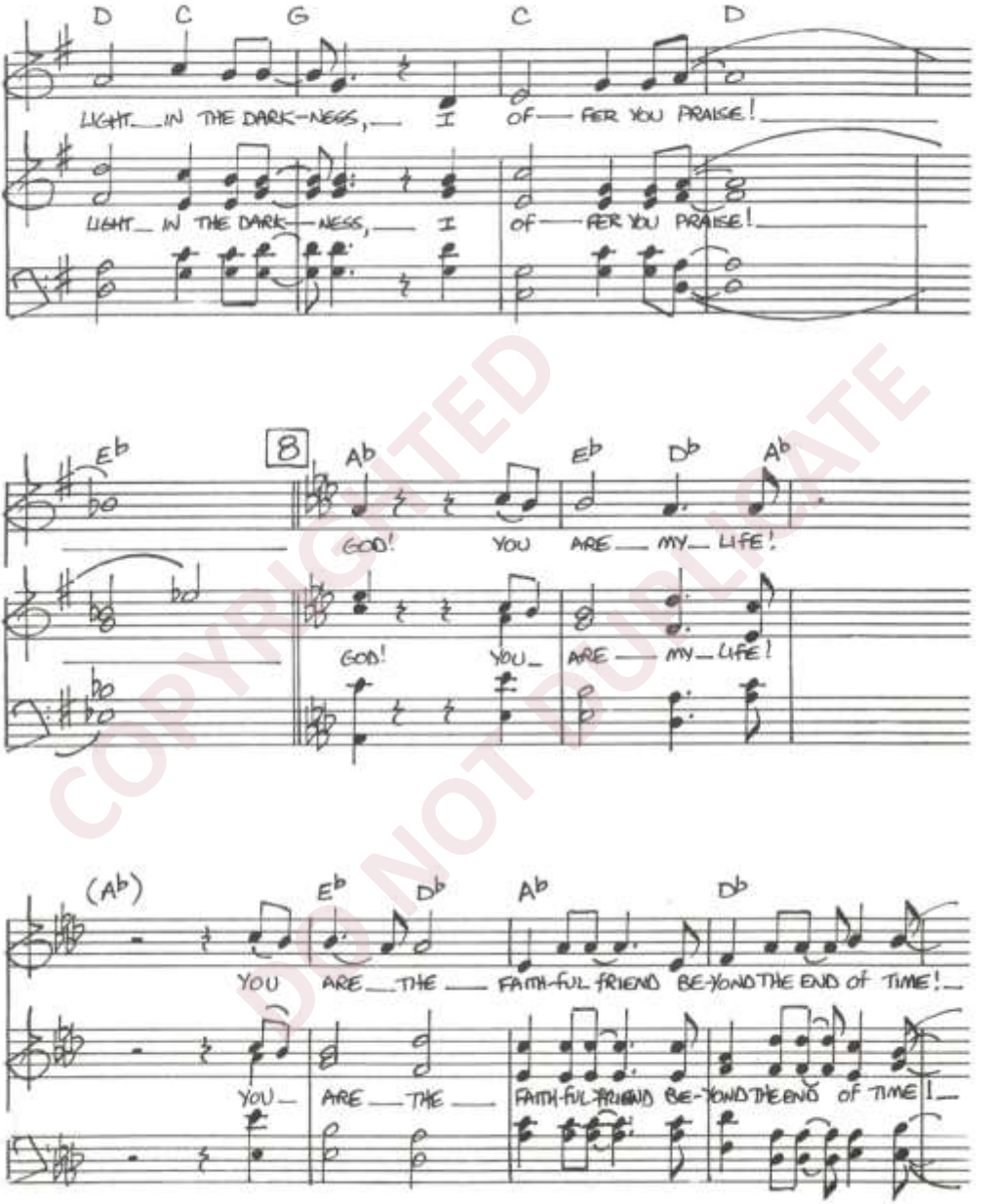

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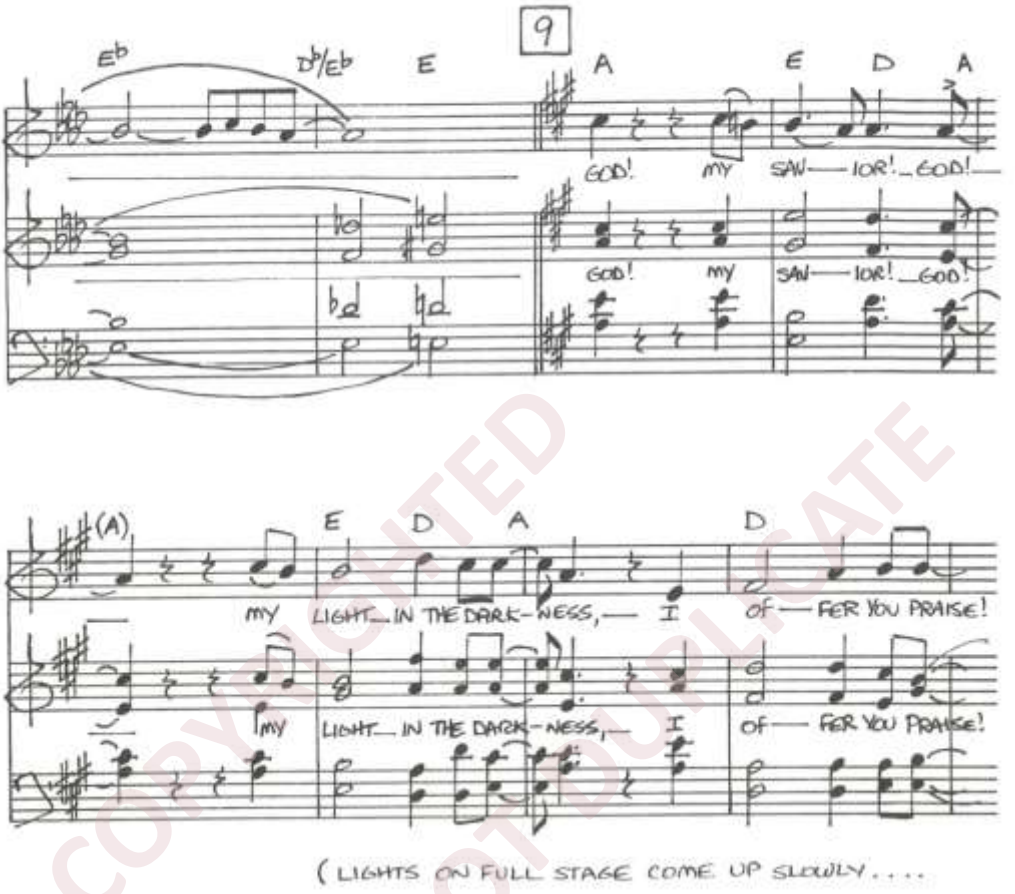

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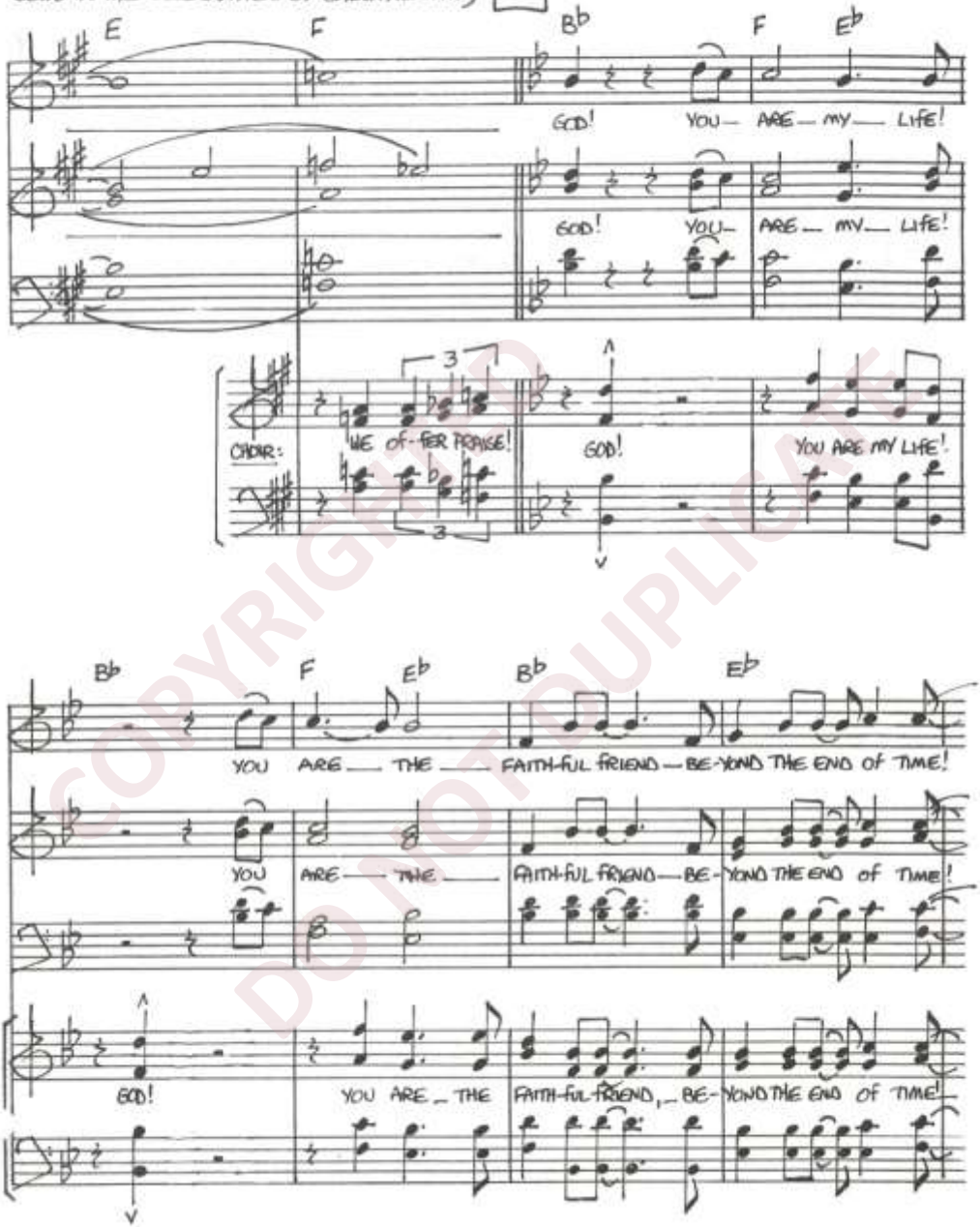
...AS THE CHOIR AND WORSHIP TEAM ALSO JOIN IN THE CELEBRATION OF SALVATION!...) 10



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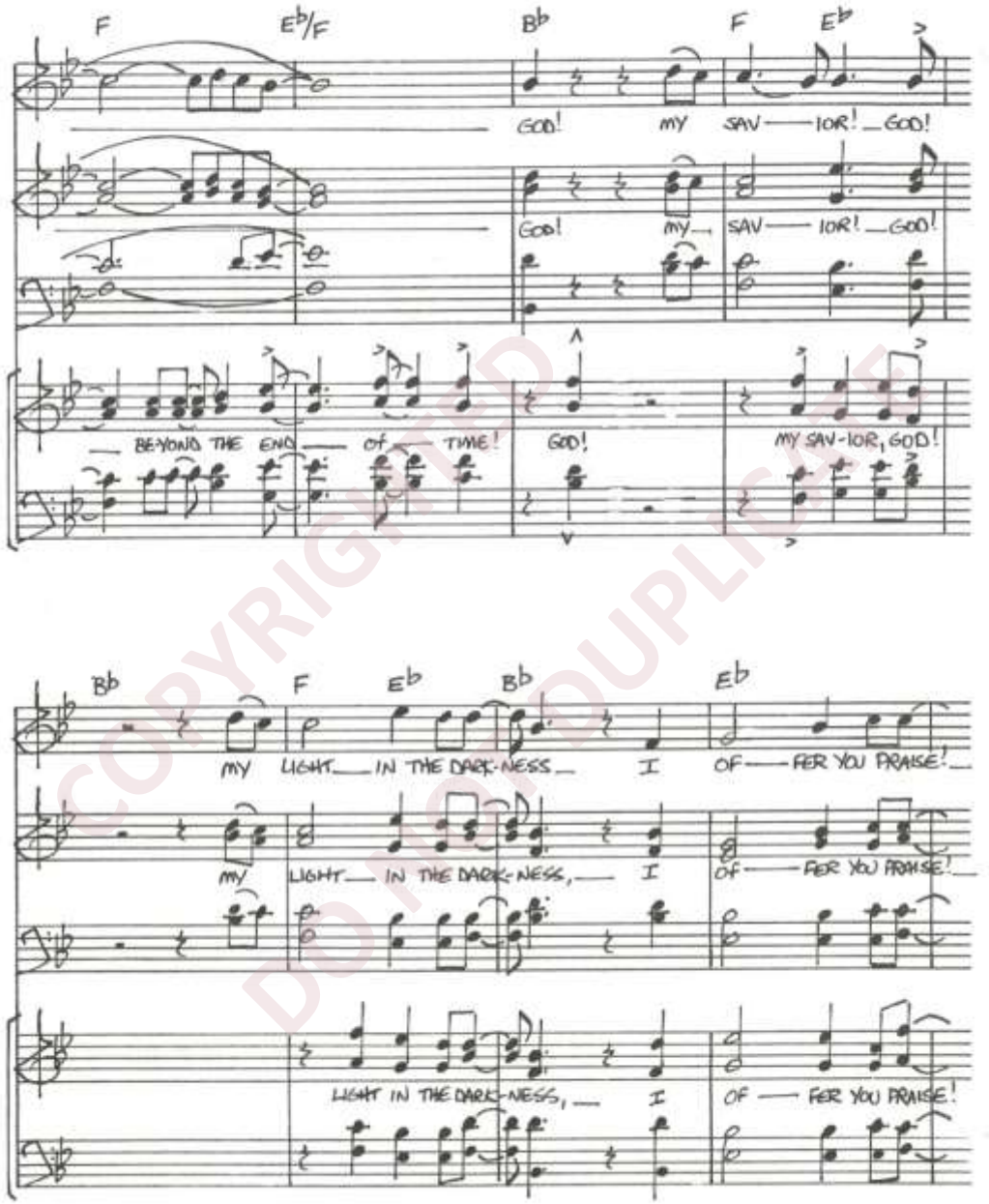

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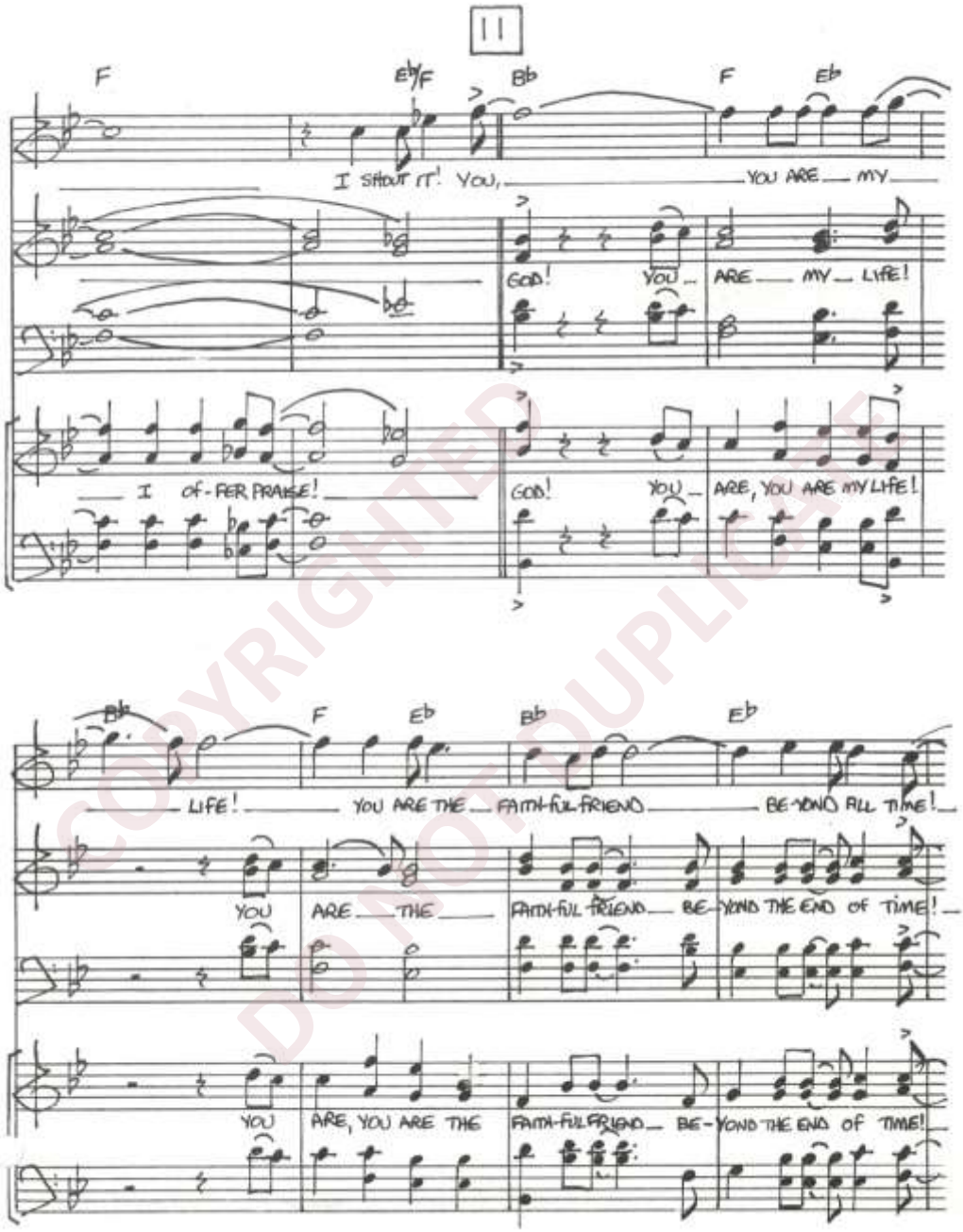

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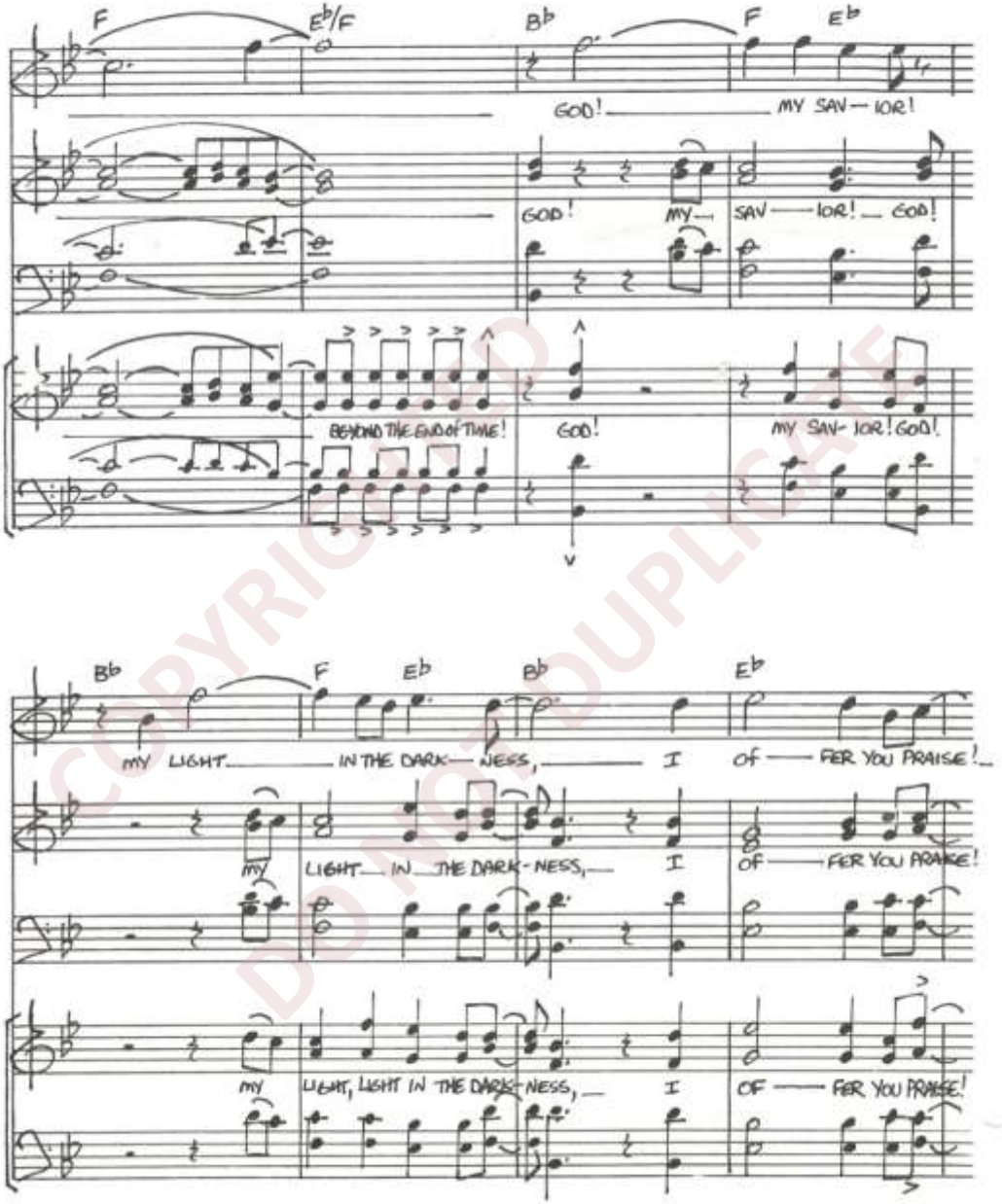

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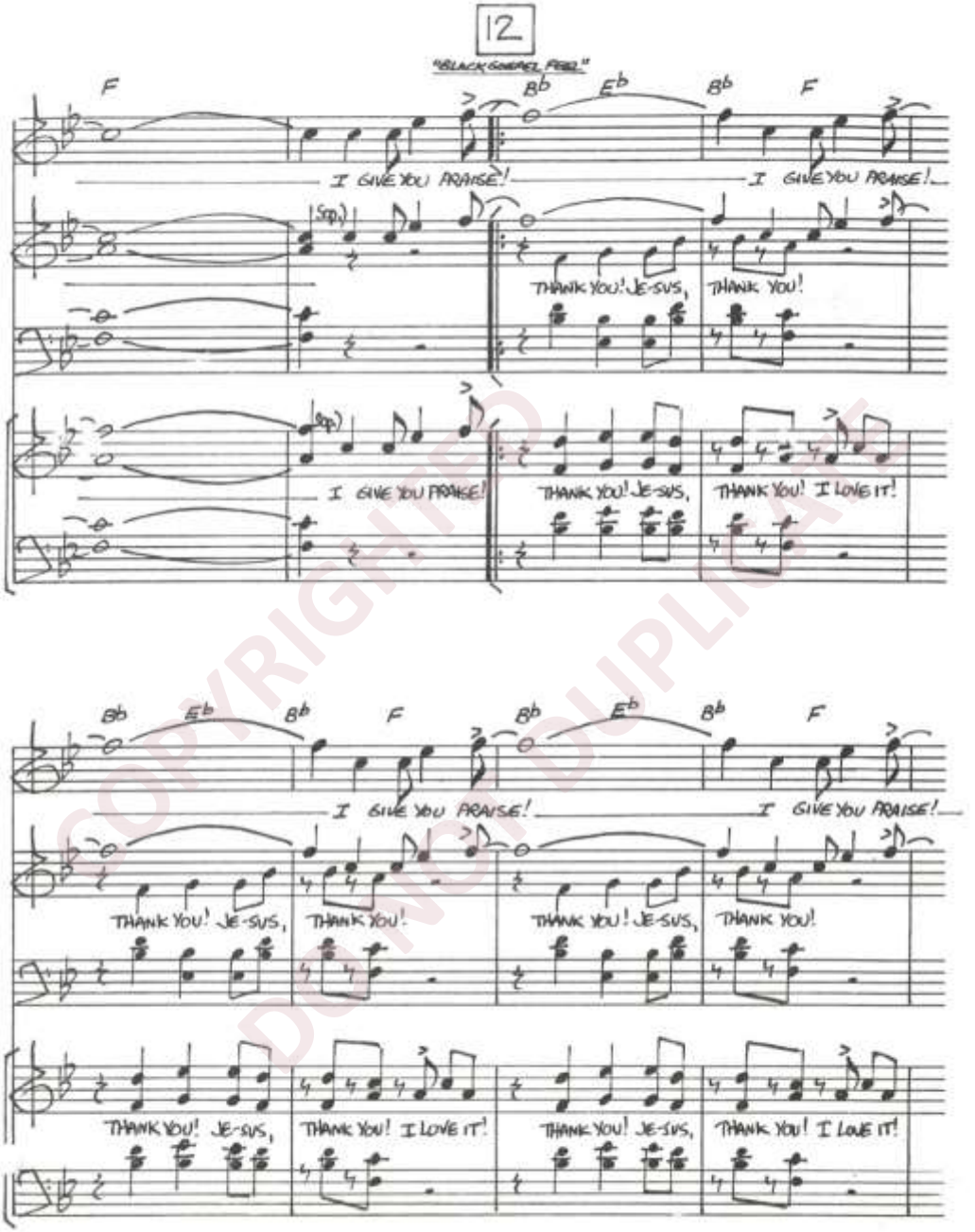

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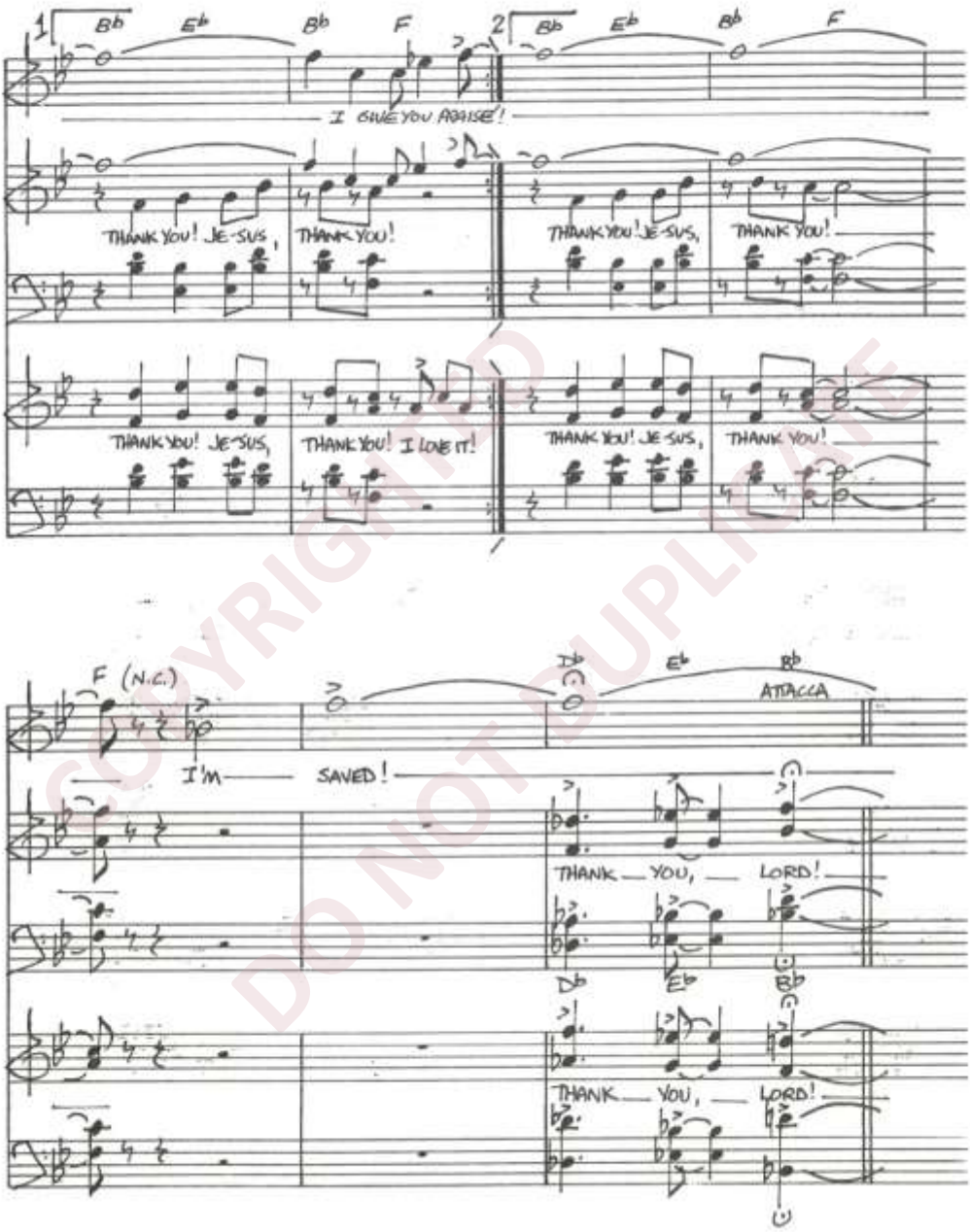

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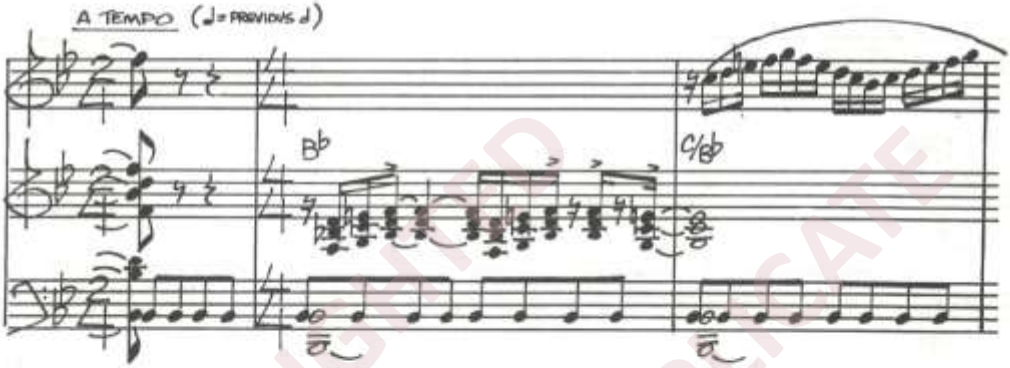
FINALE - "You Alone Are God"

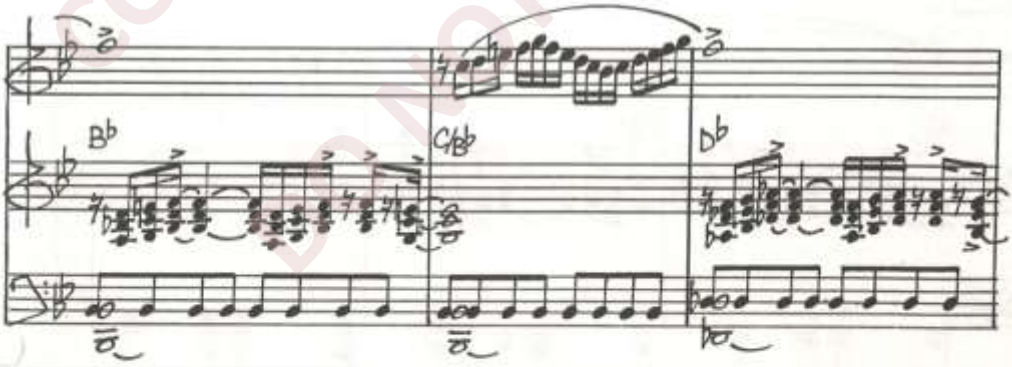
Words & Music by GARY BENJAMIN

(...WITH SHOUTS OF JOY, MANY OF THE PARTICIPANTS ON STAGE (THE WORSHIP

A TEMPO (♩= PREVIOUS ♩)



LEADER, THE TEAM MEMBERS, "THE CONGREGATIONAL ENSEMBLE") EXCITEDLY EMBRACE THE NEWLY-SAVED MAN, REJOICING AND WELCOMING HIM INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST!,)



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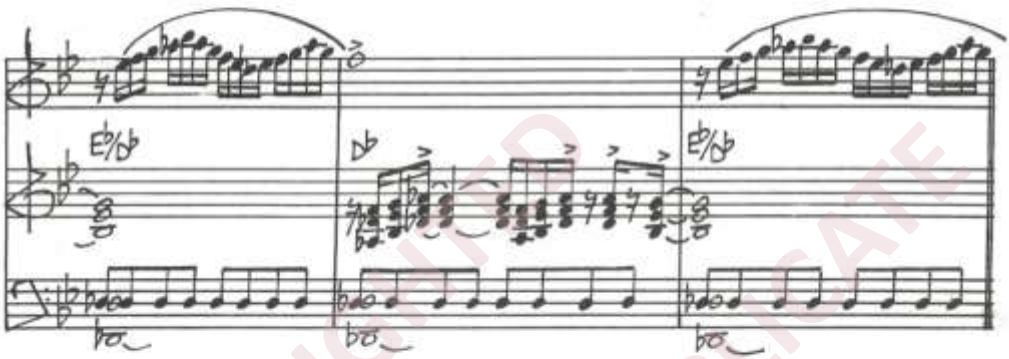
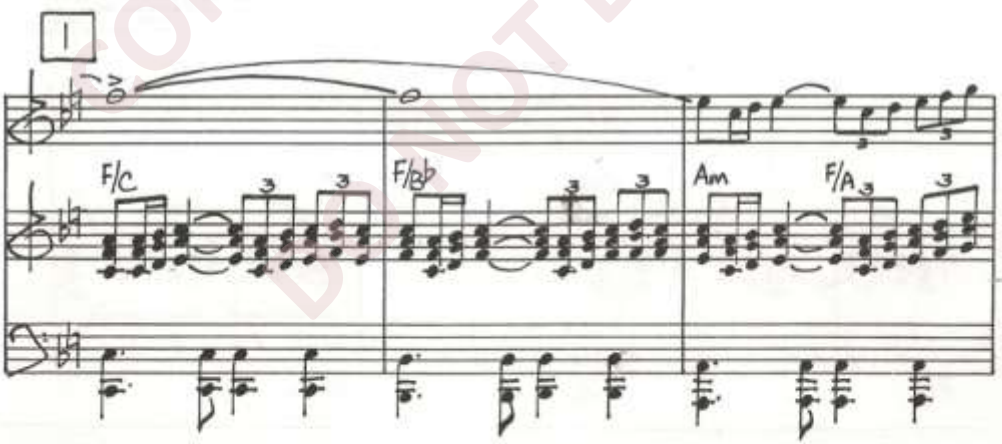
WORSHIP LEADER: (STEPPING AWAY FROM CELEBRATORS, ADDRESSING THE AUDIENCE/CONGREGATION)
"HALLELUJAH!.. WE SERVE A FAITHFUL GOD!.. A GOD WHO REACHES TO HIS PEOPLE



IN SO MANY WAYS! HE IS FAITHFUL IN HIS SAVING GRACE, (HE INDICATES THE GROUP SURROUNDING THE SAVED MAN), HE IS FAITHFUL AS A LOVING HEAVENLY FATHER! HE



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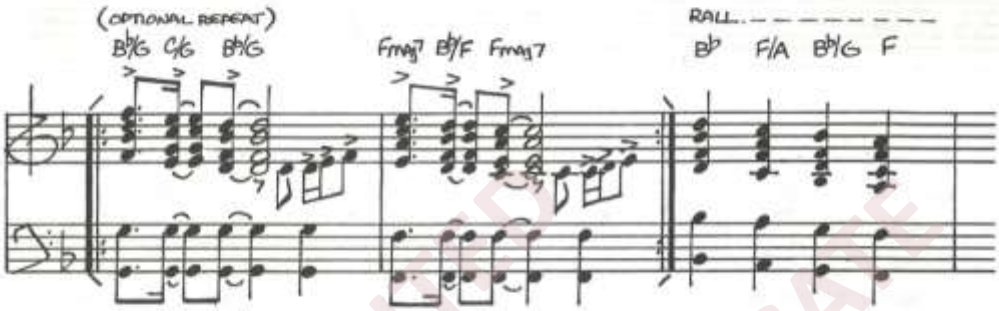
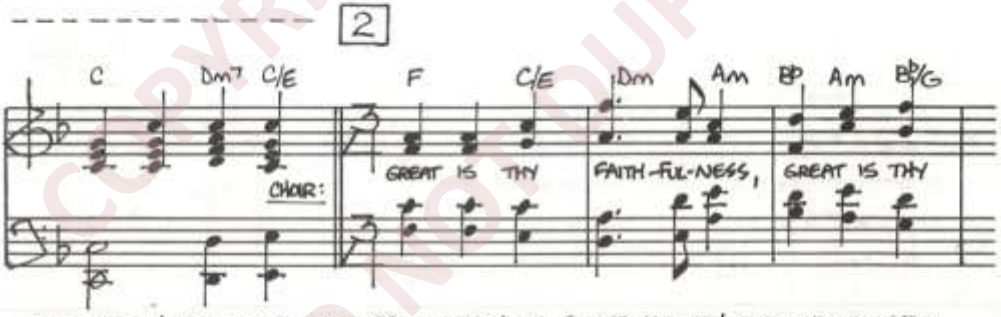
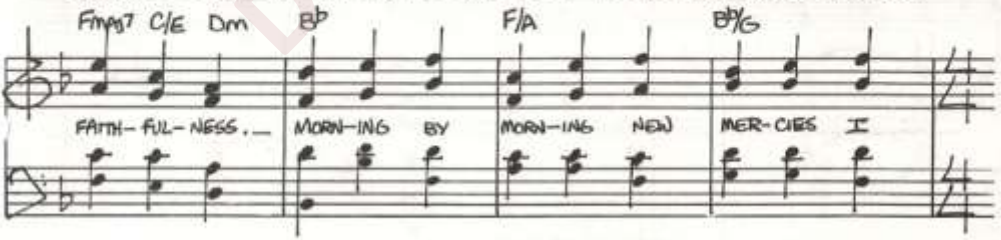
IS FAITHFUL IN HEALING, IN BOTH OUR PHYSICAL BODIES AND OUR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIPS WITH ONE ANOTHER. HE IS FAITHFUL AS THE CENTER OF OUR



HOME AND FAMILIES! .... HE ALONE IS GOD! ... HIS LOVE FOR US NEVER CHANGES! HIS FAITHFULNESS CONTINUES THROUGH ALL GENERATIONS! HIS FAITHFULNESS REACHES TO



THE SKIES! PSALM 117 SAYS, PRAISE THE LORD ALL YE NATIONS! EXTOL HIM ALL YOU PEOPLE! FOR GREAT IS HIS LOVE TOWARD US AND THE FAITHFULNESS OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER! .... PRAISE THE LORD! .... PRAISE THE LORD! ....



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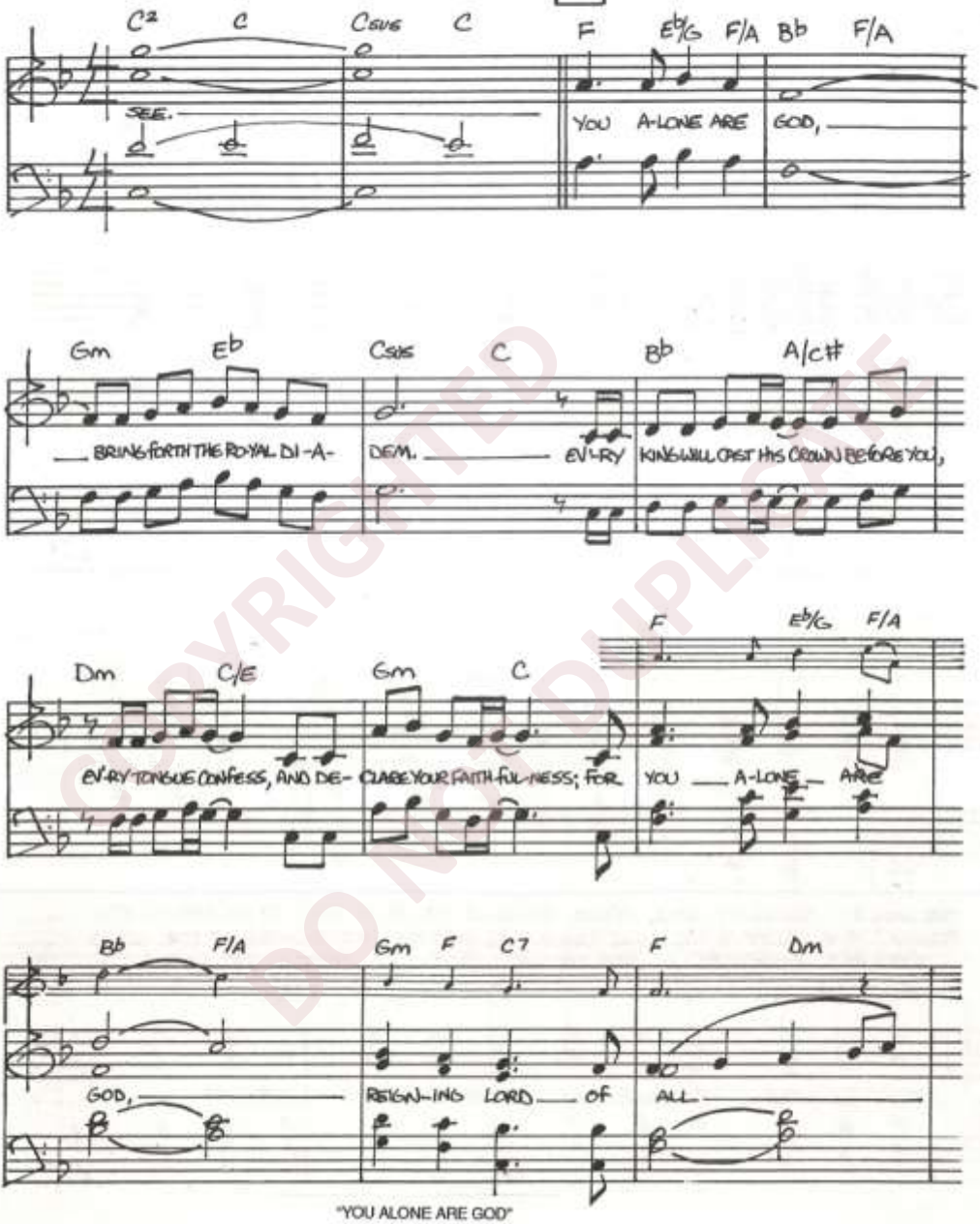
D-12

PRAISE THE LORD! ....."

3 FULL ENSEMBLE / FULL COMPANY



"YOU ALONE ARE GOD"
by Gary Benjamin
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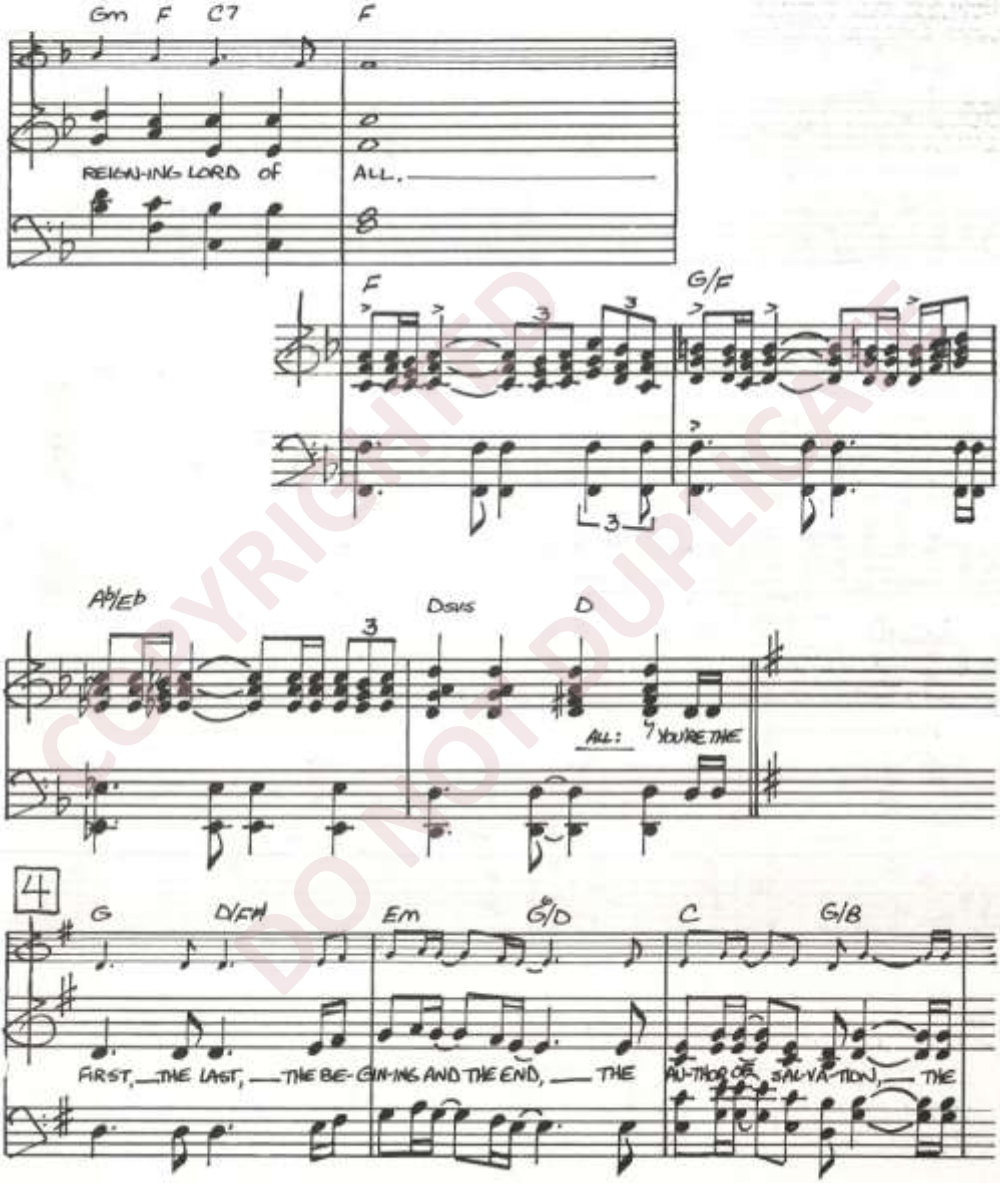

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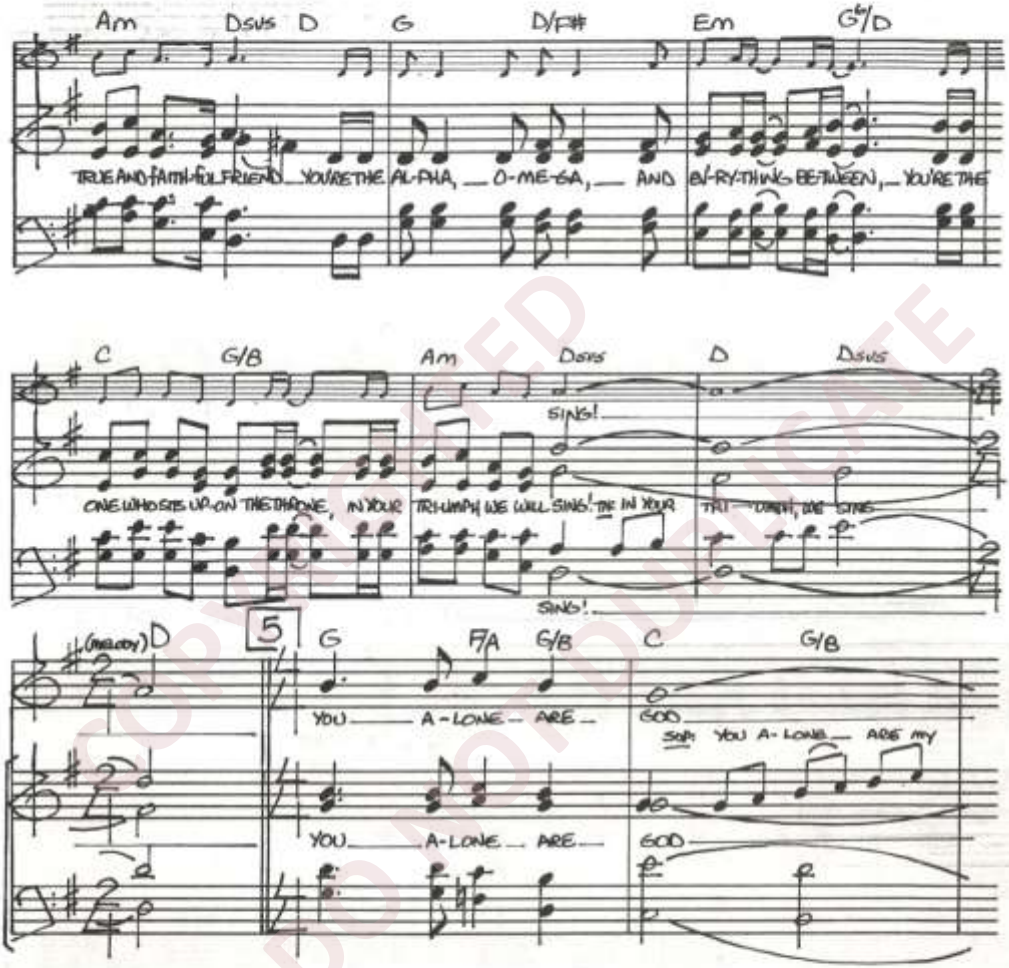
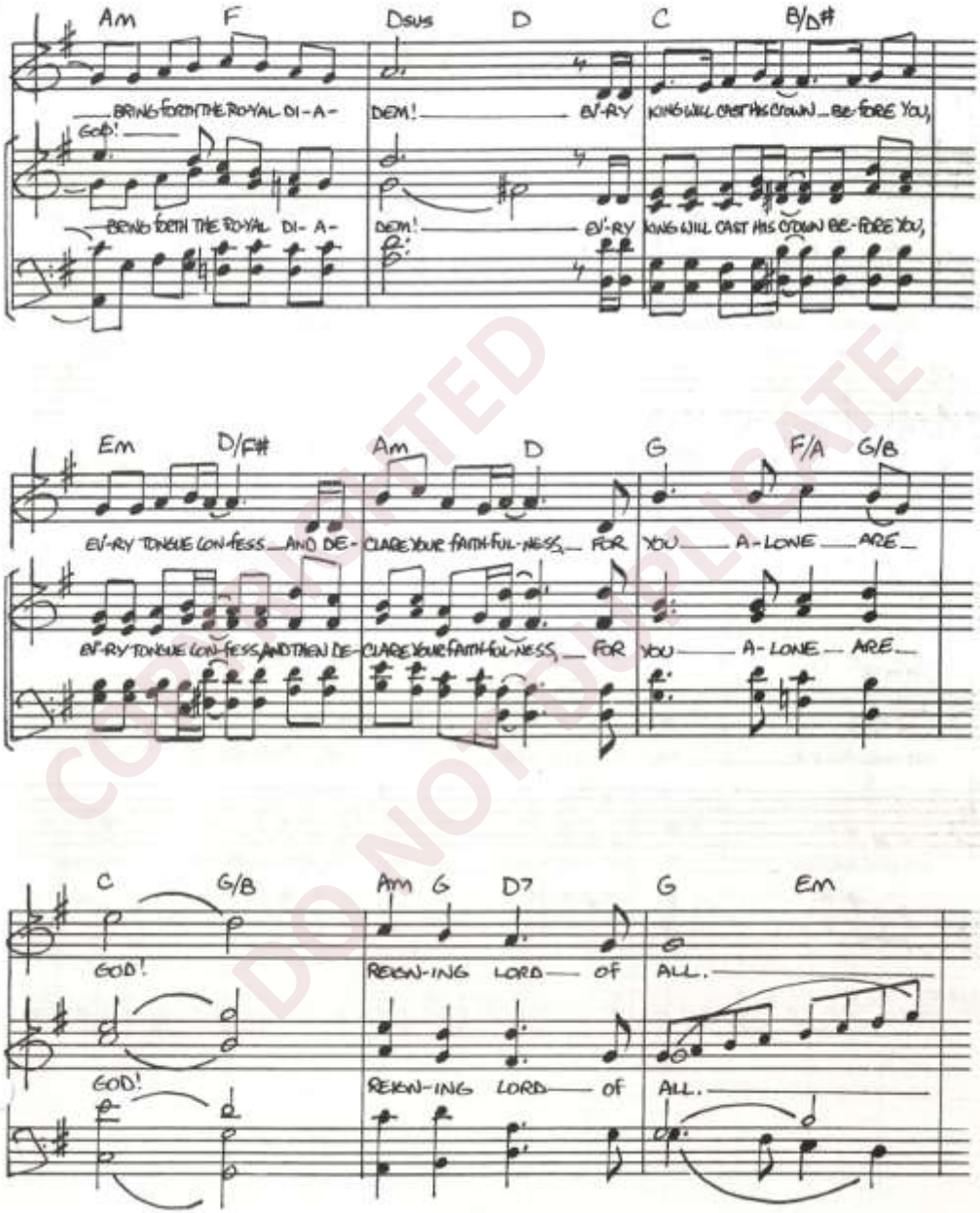

Am
Dsus
D
G
D/F#
Em
G/D
TRUE AND FAITH-FUL FRIEND. YOU'RE THE AL-PHA, O-ME-GA, AND EV-RY-THING BE-TWEEN, YOU'RE THE
C
G/B
Am
Dsus
D
Dsus
SING!
ONE WHO SITS UP-ON THE THRONE, IN YOUR TRI-UMPH WE WILL SING! BE IN YOUR
SING!
(MELODY)
D
5
G
F/A
G/B
C
G/B
YOU A-LONE ARE
GOD
SON YOU A-LONE ARE MY
YOU A-LONE ARE
GOD



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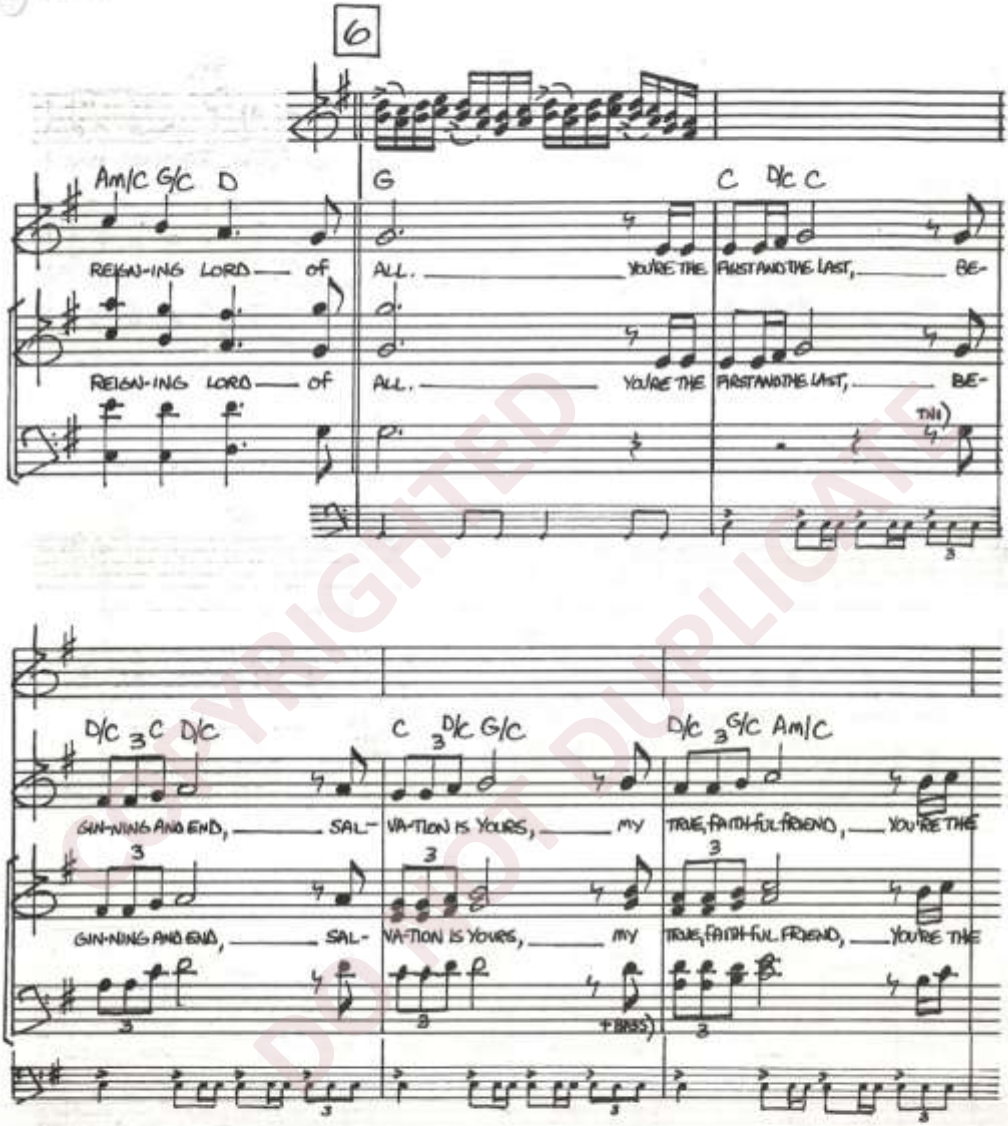
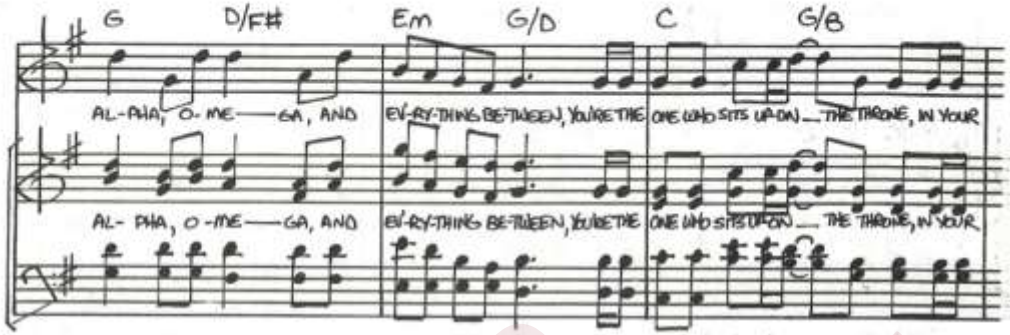
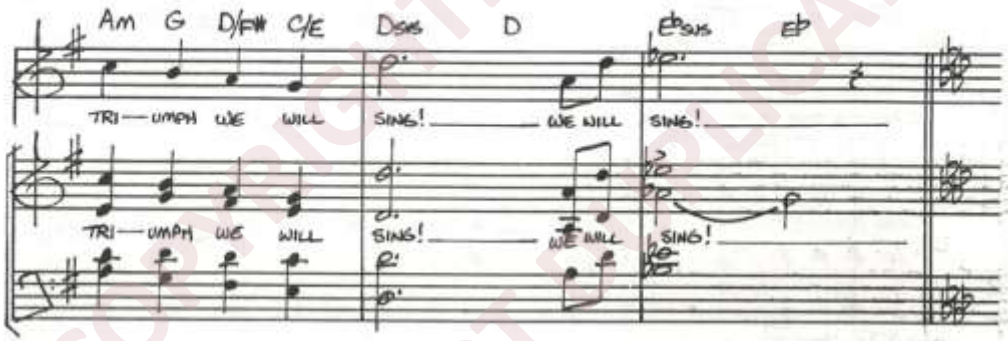
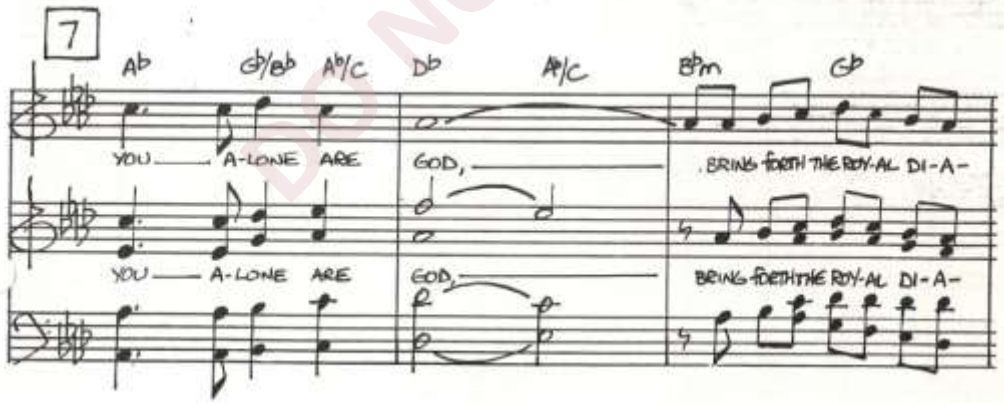




WORSHIP LEADER: "YOU ALONE ARE GOD!..."





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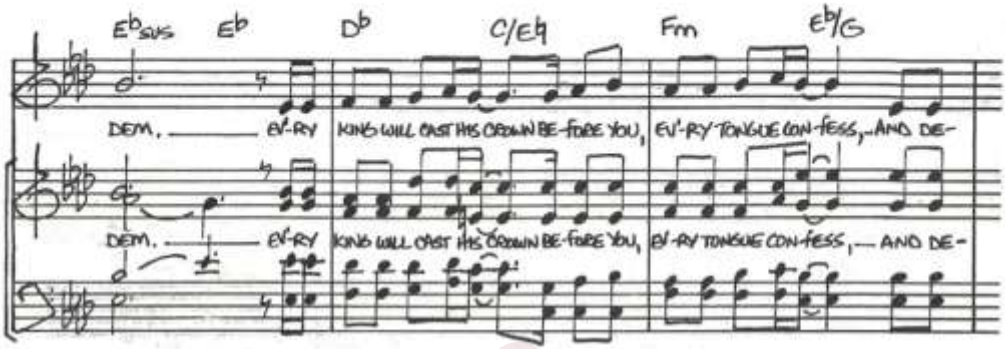

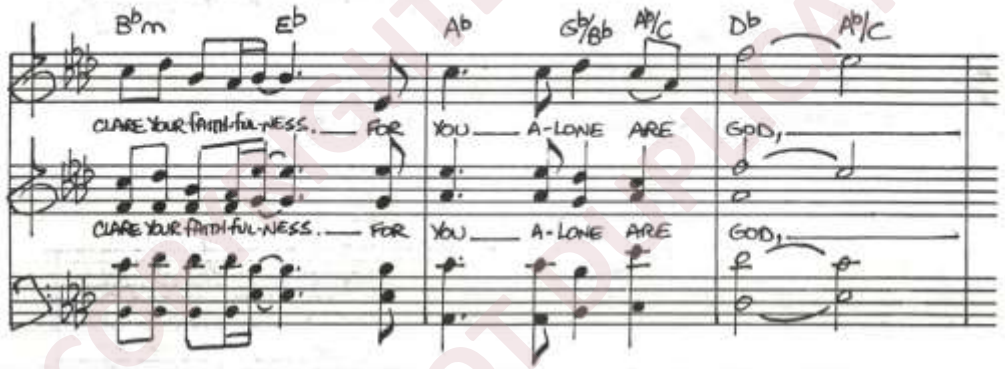

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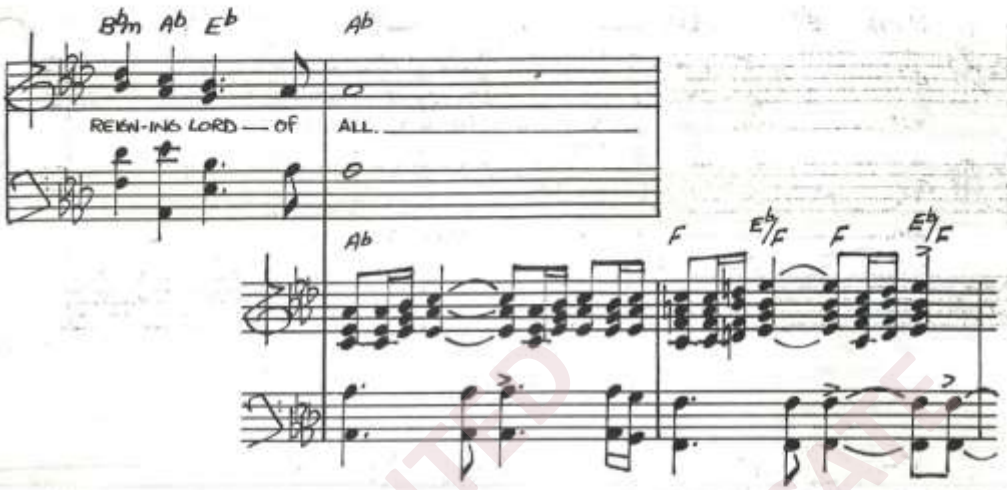
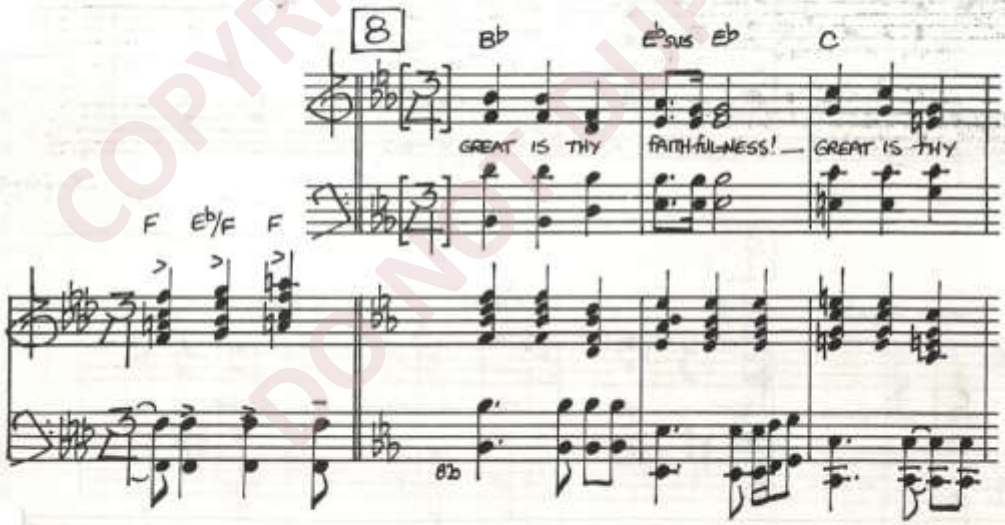


"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Text by THOMAS O. CHISHOLM / Music by WILLIAM M. RUNYAN



"GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS"
by Thomas O Chisholm & William M. Runyan
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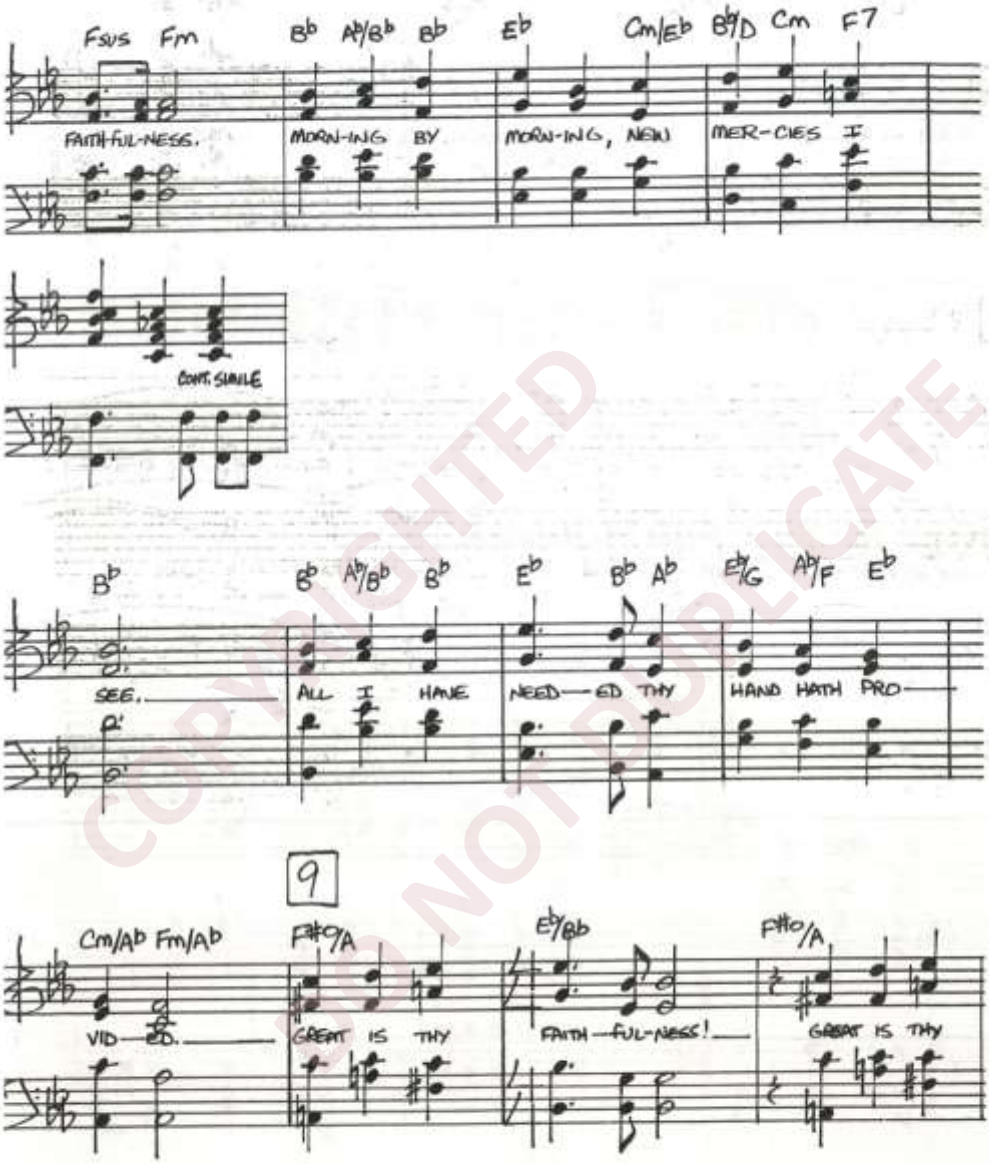

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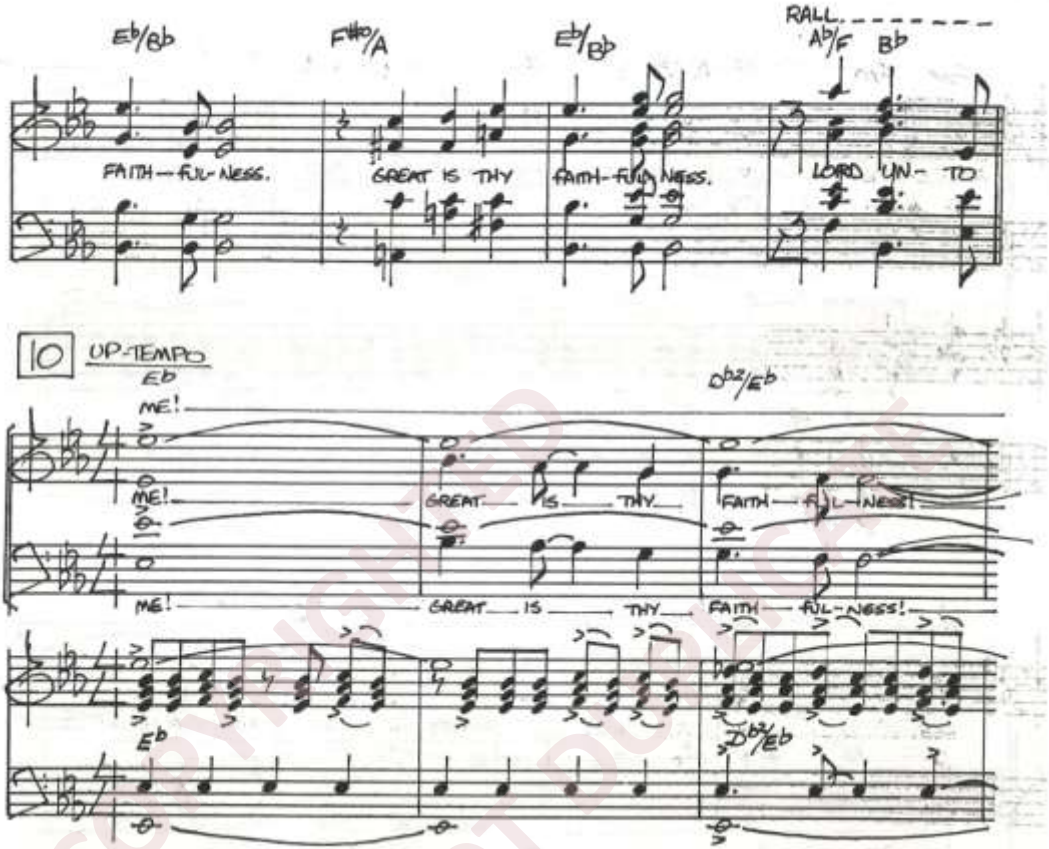

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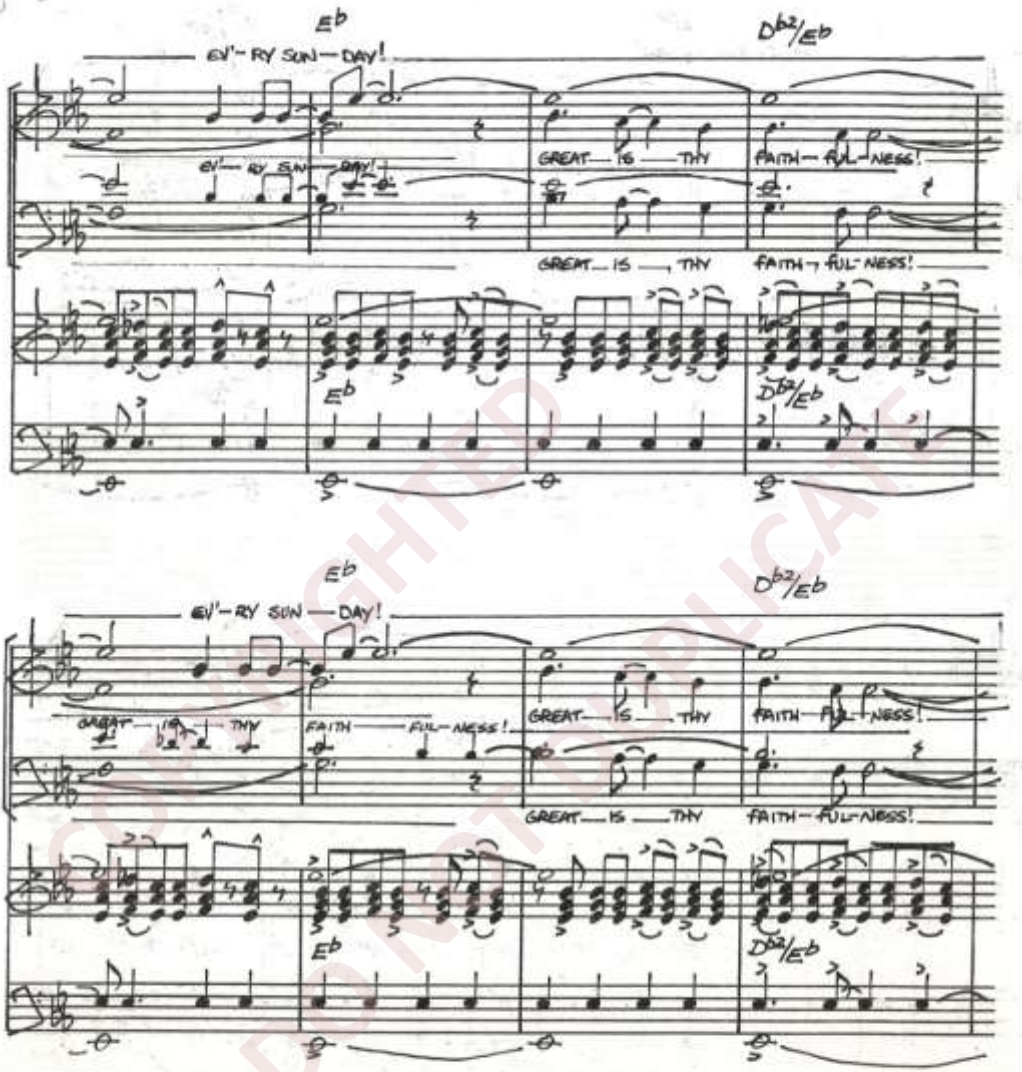

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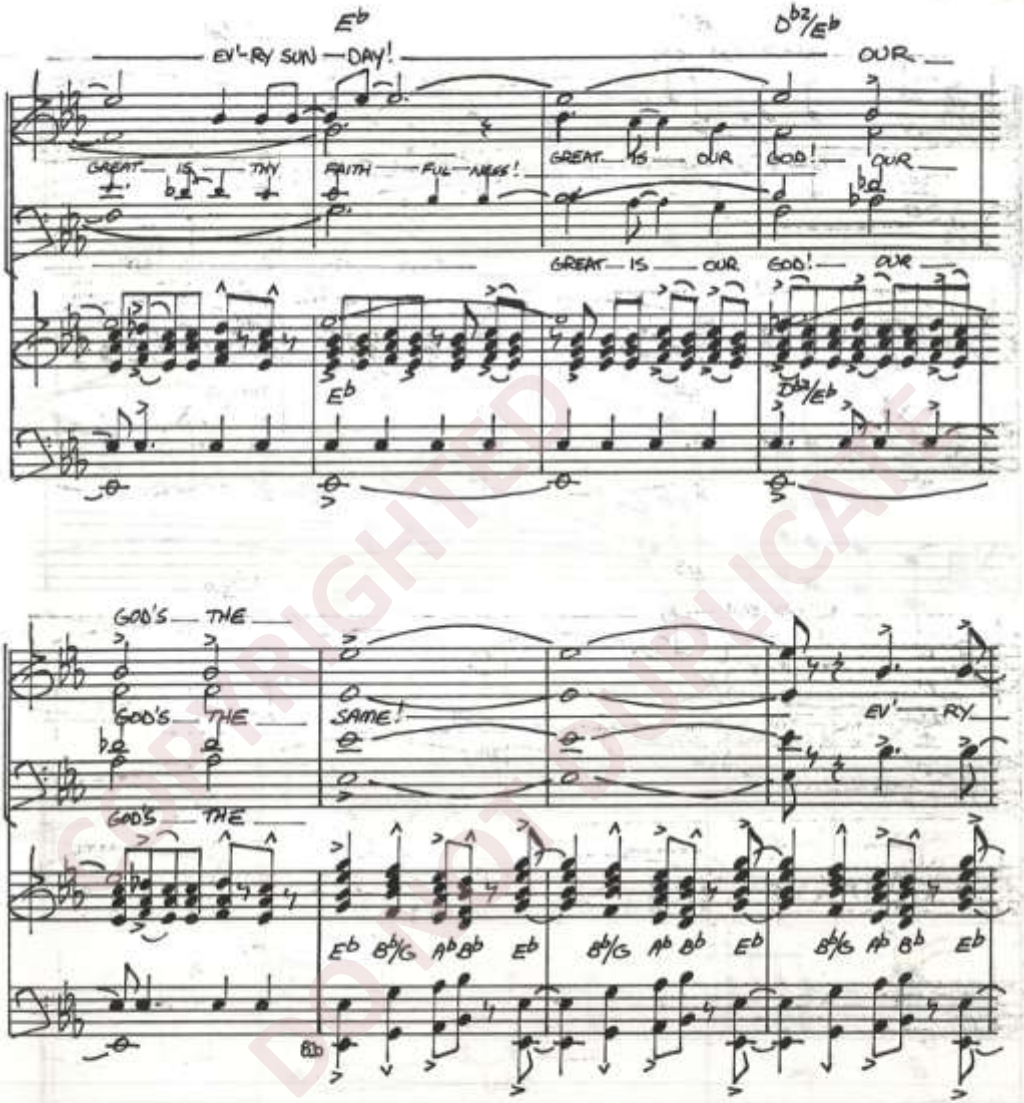
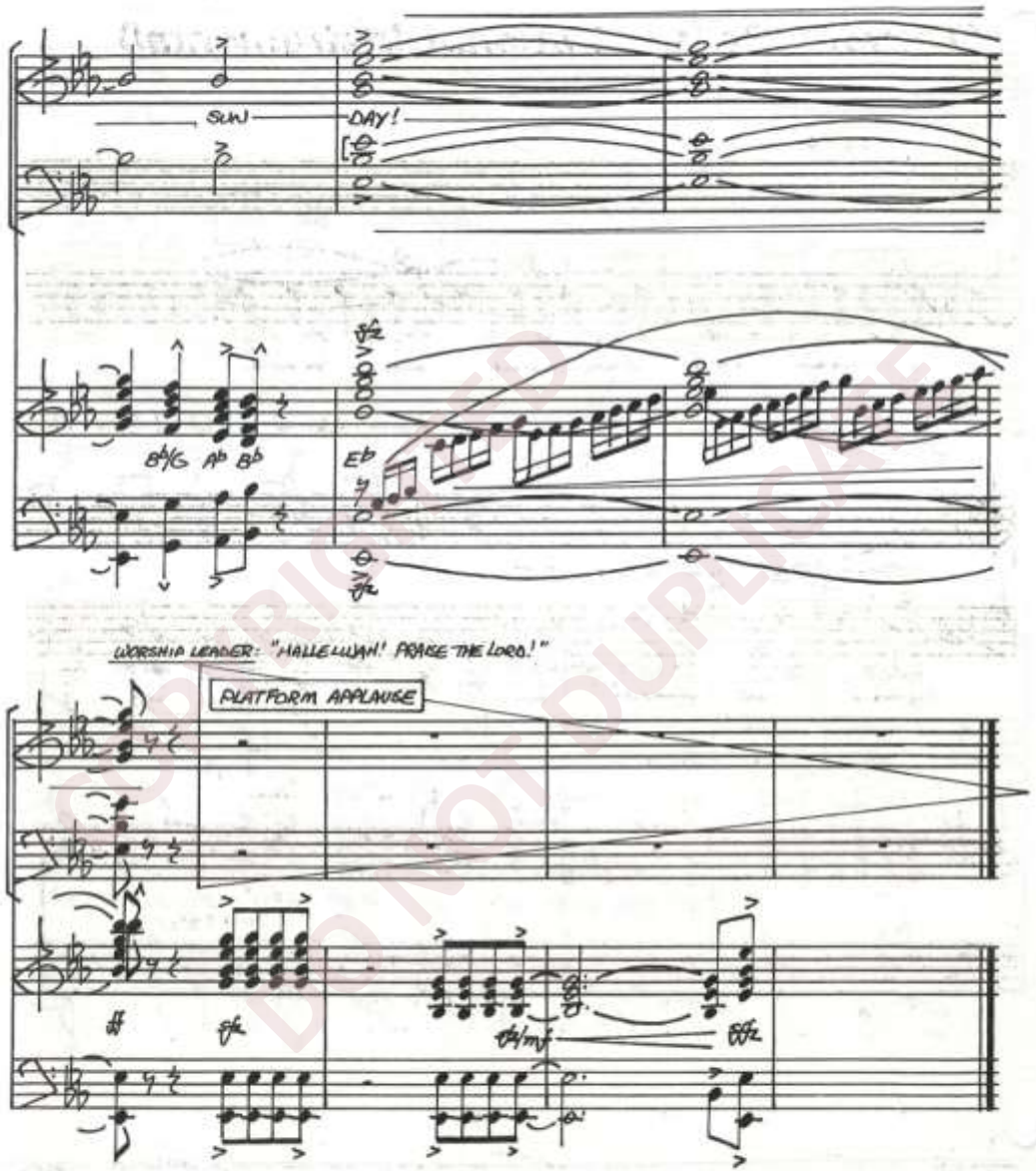

Eb
Db2/Eb
EV'-RY SUN-DAY!
OUR
GREAT IS THY
FAITH-FUL-NESS!
GREAT IS OUR
GOD! OUR
GREAT IS OUR
GOD! OUR
Eb
Db2/Eb
GOD'S THE
GOD'S THE
SAME!
EV'-RY
GOD'S THE
Eb Bb/G Ab Bb Eb
Bb/G Ab Bb Eb
Bb/G Ab Bb Eb
Bb



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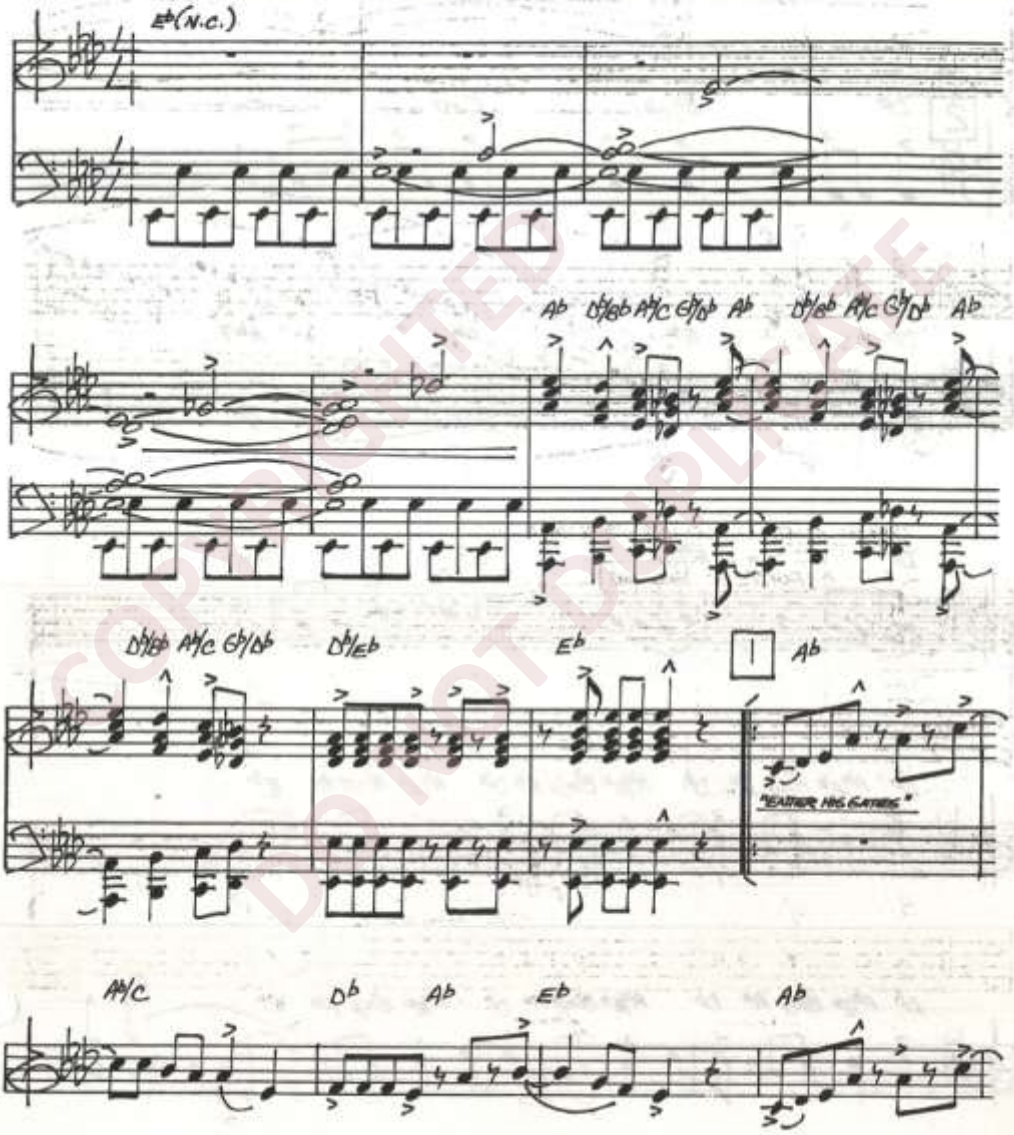
"Curtain Calls" (Optional Instrumental)



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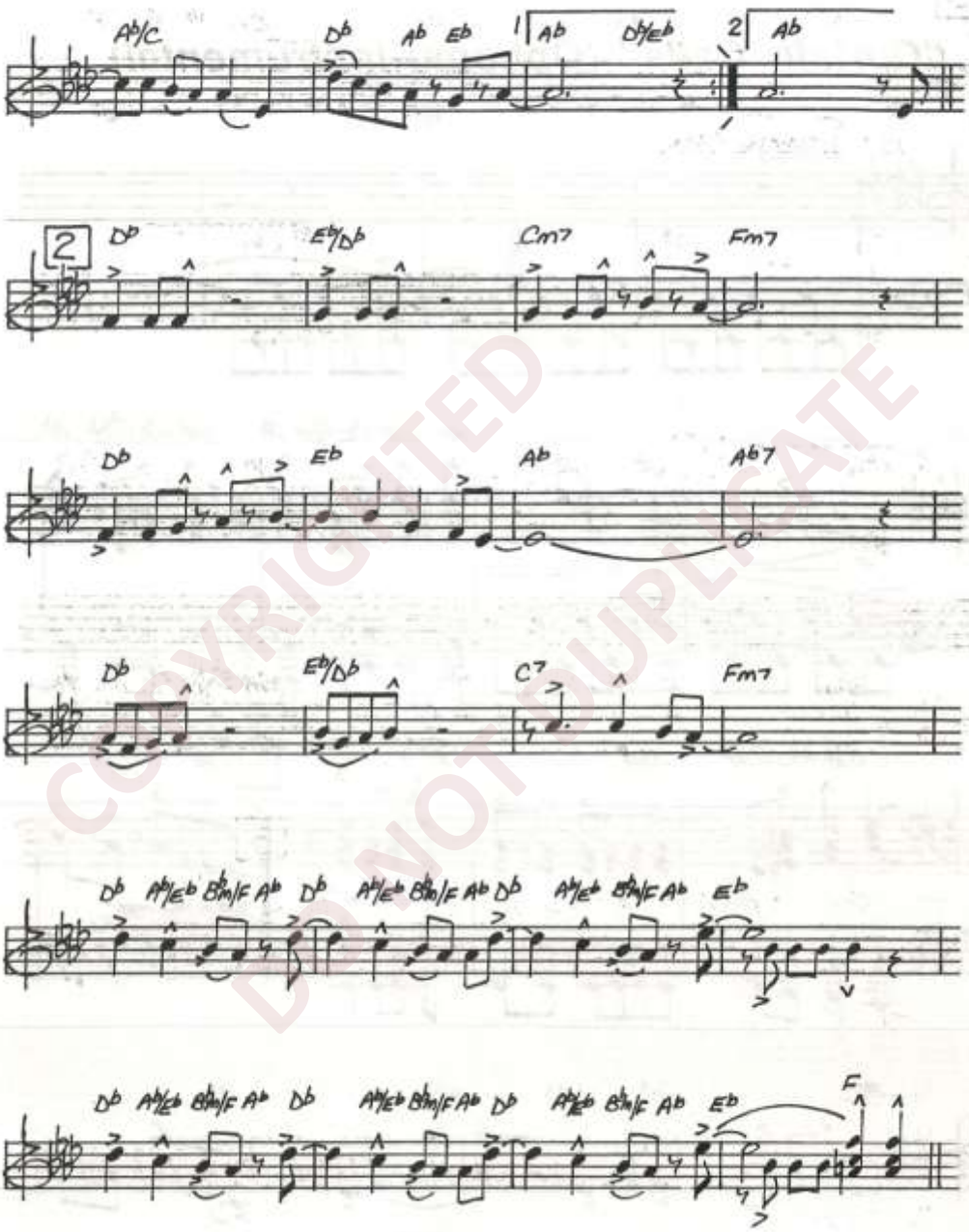

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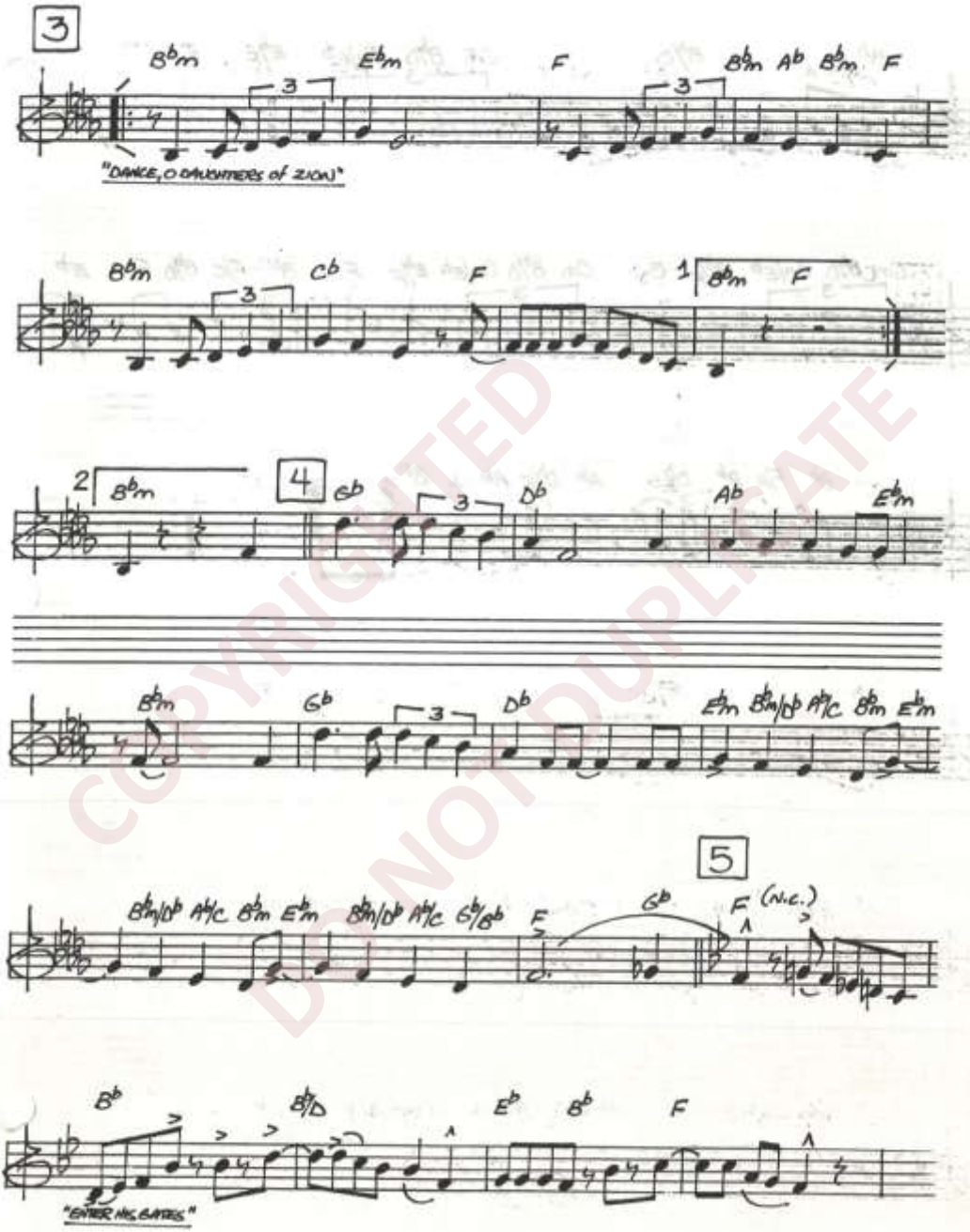

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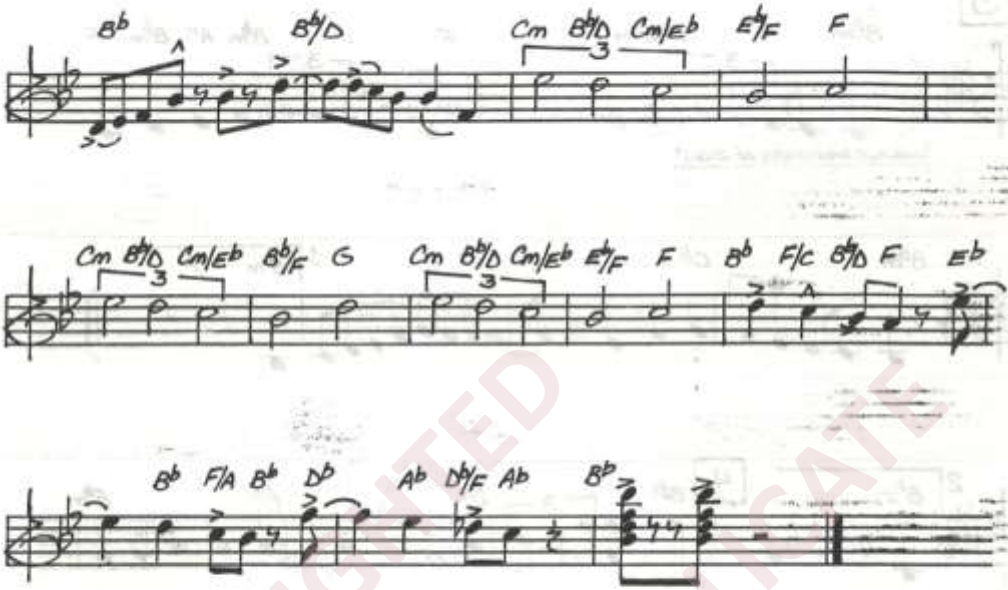

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